

*Missionary
Diary*



This is the Missionary Diary of

Elder Bronson Gardner

102 Birch Street, Vacaville California

Representing the Vacaville Ward, in the Napa Stake

While serving in the North British Mission

From January 17, 1968 to January 16, 1970

THOUGHTS WHEN I RECEIVED MY MISSION CALL

I was very excited and anxious. I'd been waiting for what seemed like ever so long to receive my call. It was almost impossible to contain my joy and excitement when I read I had been called to the North British Mission, because that is where Zell Nezius, Sister Ryan's sister is. She's the cook for the mission. My thoughts were complete overjoyment and anxiousness to leave. I couldn't wait to leave. It was almost too incredible to believe my dream of being called on a mission was finally realized. Simply, it was a grand feeling.

THOUGHTS WHEN I WAS RELEASED FROM MY MISSION

I don't feel any different. As far as I can tell, I'm still obligated to live the gospel and teach it to others. I hope I can become worthy of the blessings which can be mine through obedience to the gospel

CHRONOLOGY OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

Fred Anderson interviewed me on November, 1967

Darrell Bertis Call interviewed me on November, 1967

Thomas S. Monson interviewed me on January 10, 1968

I received my call to the North British Mission on December, 1967

I was in the Mission Home from January 8, 1968 to January 15, 1968

I received my endowments on January 2, 1968 (Oakland) and went to the Salt Lake temple twice on January 12, 1968.

I received my Patriarchal Blessing from John L. Murdock on May 16, 1966

I was Set Apart for my Mission by Thomas S. Monson on January 10, 1968

I arrived at Mission Headquarters Rossett Green Lane, Harrogate, Yorkshire on January 16, 1968

My Mission Present was Leonard Doyle Robison

I did my First Tracting in Urmston, Lancashire on January 17, 1968

My first Baptism was in Cleethorpes-Grimsby on October 18, 1968

I received my Release from the Mission Field on January 21, 1970

I left the Mission Field on January 16, 1970 and arrived home on January 1⁶, 1970

I did not have a homecoming

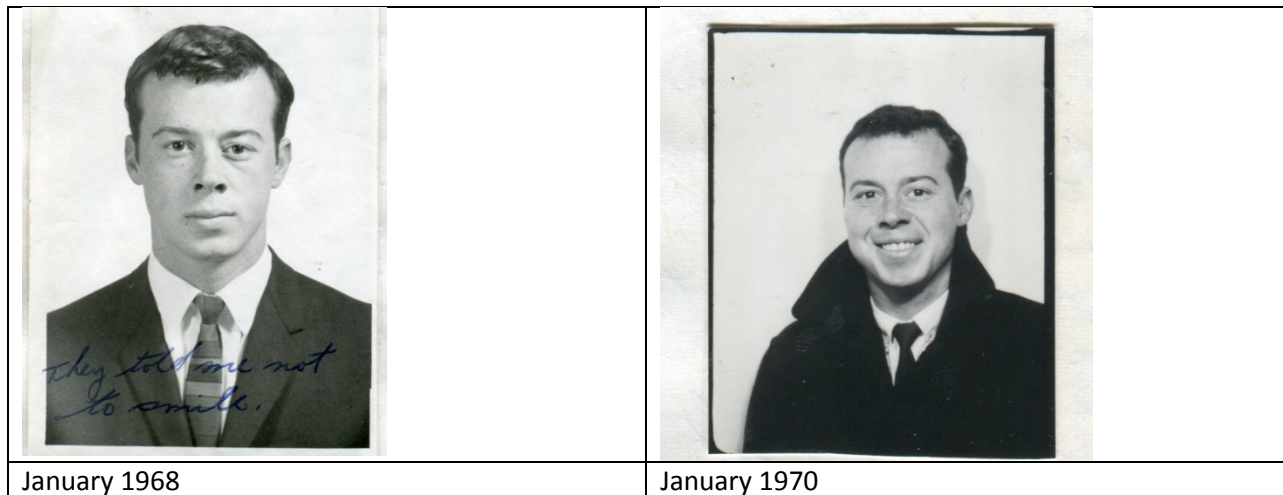
MY FAREWELL PROGRAM

I came home about 7:30 and everyone was waiting for me. "Surprise!" , they all said. It really made me happy that they did it for me. Instead of having an organized program, it was more like a party. At one point, I brought out the tape recorder and we made a tape to send to Elder Grant Jensen, who's been in the Canadian Alaskan Mission a couple of months. Everyone start going home about 10:30 and I really enjoyed them. It means a lot to me to have everybody turn out like they did. I know, they'd have done it for anybody but it still gladdens me to know they did it for me.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

When I left my mission I weighed 140 pounds and was 5 feet 7 inches tall.





When I returned from my mission I weighed 155 pounds and was 5 feet 7 inches tall.













SPECIAL POSITIONS AND CALLINGS IN THE MISSION FIELD

Calling	Date of Call
District Leader's Companion (Lake District)	December 30, 1968
District Leader (Lake District)	January 16, 1969
District Leader (Sunderland)	May 24, 1969
District Leader (Sheffield)	September 13, 1969
"Fiery Finisher" or Co-Senior Companion	December 4, 1969

MY COMPANIONS


Companion	District	Zone	Town / Address	From	To
Russell Young Riverside, Calif 	Manchester	Cumorah	67 Roseneath Road, Urmston Landlady and Landord: The Lozinska family, with daughter named Sofia	01/17/1968	03/09/1968
Eric Russell Despain Box 172 Centerfield, Utah 	Manchester	Cumorah	67 Roseneath Road, Urmston Landlady and Landlord: The Lozinska family, with daughter named Sofia	03/09/1968	06/19/1968
Warren Smith Wimmer 1635 W. Camelot Dr. Layton, Utah 	Scunthorpe	Moroni	Cleethorpes 104 Oxford Street Cleethorpes Landlady and Landlord: Brother and Sister Dawes	06/19/1968	08/06/1968
David Rex Larsen Rt. 2 Box 249 Rigby, Idaho 	Sunthorpe	Moroni	Cleethorpes 10 Beverly Crescent Grimsby, Lincolnshire 10 Beverly Crescent Grimsby, Lincolnshire Landlady and Landlord: The Salisbury	08/06/1968	10/28/1968


<p>Kimball W. Pugmire 810 N. 6th East Logan, Utah</p> 	Leeds	Zarahemla	<p>Barnsley 255 Park Road Landlady: Mrs. Benson</p>	10/28/1968	12/30/1968
<p>Vern D. McDonald 3117 Terry Way Carmichael, Calif</p> 	Lake	Bountiful	<p>Carlisle 6 West Tower Street Carlisle, Cumberland (located just above the shop of Danny Dunglinson, electrical contractor at 4 West Tower Street)</p>	12/30/1968	01/16/1968
<p>Paul Cook Squire 308 N. 1st East Roosevelt, Utah</p> 	Lake	Bountiful	<p>Carlisle 6 West Tower Street Carlisle, Cumberland</p>	01/16/1969	04/26/1969
<p>James D. Wilson 813 Whipple Drive Lehi, Utah</p> 	Lake	Bountiful	<p>Carlisle 6 West Tower Street Carlisle, Cumberland</p>	04/26/1969	05/24/1968
<p>Thomas Lee Nelson Box 170 Park City, Utah</p> 	Sunderland	Bountiful	<p>Sunderland 28 Fourstones Road Sunderland Landlady: "Gran"</p>	05/24/1969	06/19/1969
<p>Richard John McCormack 1826 5th Avenue Alberta, Canada</p> 	Sunderland	Bountiful	<p>Sunderland 28 Fourstones Road Sunderland Landlady: "Gran"</p>	06/19/1969	09/13/1969


<p>Joseph Chead Fenwick 53 West 1200 South Bountiful, Utah</p> 	Sheffield	Zarahemla	<p>Sheffield 9 Swaledale Road Sheffield 7</p>	09/13/1969	10/23/1969
<p>William Paul McCracken 1617 Comanche Road Pueblo, Colorado</p> 	Sheffield	Zarahemla	<p>Sheffield 26 Raven Road Sheffield 7 Landlord: Kahn</p>	10/23/1969	12/04/1969
<p>Carey Brent Hurst 1463 Vine Street Salt Lake City, Utah</p> 	Leeds	Zarahemla	<p>Leeds 22 Roman Place</p>	12/04/1969	12/13/1969
<p>Val Hogan Grace Idaho</p> 	Leeds	Zarahemla	<p>Leeds 22 Roman Place</p>	12/13/1969	01/15/1970

RECORD OF ORDINANCES PERFORMED

Ordinance	Name of Person	Place	Date
Confirmation 	Vance Charnock  Son of church members.	Manchester	March 8, 1968
Baptism	Elaine Charnock  Daughter of Church members	Manchester	March 8, 1968
Baptism	Beverly Franklin 189 Fairmont Road Grimsby  Mother was a member, but not her father.	Grimsby	October 18, 1968
Confirmation	Wendy Franklin 189 Fairmont Road Grimsby  Mother was a member, but not her father.	Grimsby	October 18, 1968

Baptism and Confirmation	<p>Steve Ramsden Barnby Furnace Cawthorne</p>  <p>Converted. I taught him after a very difficult process of finding him.</p>	Barnsley (Dewsbury Chapel)	December 16, 1968
Baptism and Confirmation	<p>Olive Rankine 20 yrs old. Initially found by Elder McDonald. I helped teach her.</p>	Carlisle	February 1, 1969
Baptism and Confirmation	<p>Erica Bone 11 Mereith Avenue Carlisle Initially found by Elder McDonald. I baptized and confirmed her. About 20 years old.</p>	Carlisle	February 9, 1969

<p>Priesthood blessings.</p> <p>Baptism on June 27, 1969 by Elders Wilson and McKay.</p>	<p>Katie Williamson 40 Orchard Road Wigton</p>  <p>Elder Wilson and I taught her and committed her to baptism, but I transferred shortly before she was baptized.</p>	Wigton (Carlisle Area)	June 27, 1969
Baptism and Confirmation	<p>Brother & Sister Watson (I helped teach them). They lived in Elders Proudlove and Mile's area.</p>	Sunderland	August 23, 1969

Baptism and Confirmation	<p>Zoe Howells 59 Dalton Lane Rotherham</p> <p>Zoe was 10 yrs old at the time. Her parents were not members, but gave her permission to be baptized. She's was a convert. Elder Fenwick and I initially contacted her family and taught her the discussions.</p>	Dalton, Yorkshire Sheffield Area	October 13, 1969
Baptism and Confirmation	<p>Susan Selby</p> <p>Susan was projected for baptism by Elders Merrill and Elder Hoggland, but she wanted me to perform the baptism since I had taught her many times. My companion was Elder Fenwick.</p>	Sheffield	November 10, 1969
<p>Baptism and confirmation</p> <p>Priesthood Blessings.</p>	<p>Sister Hall (a member) and her son, Peter. My companion was Elder Fenwick.</p> 	Sheffield	November, 1969

MY LINE OF AUTHORITY

I was ordained an Elder by Darrel B. Call (my stake president) on November 19, 1967,
Who was ordained by (High Priest) Victor Bowen on December 21, 1958
Who was ordained by (High Priest) Delpert L. Stapely on June 16, 1957
Who was ordained by (Apostle) by George Albert Smith on October 5, 1950
Who was ordained by (Apostle) by Joseph F. Smith on October 8, 1903
Who was ordained by (Apostle) by Brigham Young on July 1, 1866
Who was ordained by Oliver Cowdery, David Whitmer, Martin Harris, on February 14, 1835
Who was ordained by Joseph Smith
Who received his authority from Peter, James and John;
Who received their authority from Jesus Christ

MY PERSONAL HISTORY

Born: Goldsboro, North Carolina on November 19, 1948
Blessed by my father
Baptized by my father on July 5, 1957 in Napa, California
Confirmed by my father on July 7, 1957 in Vacaville, California
Ordained Deacon by my father, in Vacaville, California
Ordained Teacher by my father, in Vacaville, California
Ordained priest by my father in Vacaville, California
Ordained Elder by Darrel B. Call on November 19, 1967 in Napa, California

CHERISHED EXPERIENCES TO REMEMBER

Arriving in Salt Lake (page 1) January 4, 1968

Setting apart by Thomas Monson (page 4) January 10, 1968

Received Endowments in Oakland Temple – January 2, 1968

RECORD OF MISSION EXPENSES

Month	Income – Source	Amount (Dollars) Note: \$100 in 1969 is equal to about \$670 in 2020	Monthly Expense (Dollars)
January 1968	Home	80	90
February	Home	200	200
March	Home	100	100
April	Home & Aunt Mary	105	100
May	Home & Aunt Mary	105	90
June	Home & Aunt Mary	105	125
July	Home & Aunt Mary	105	104
August	Home & Aunt Mary & Lorin Barton, and Sister Schultz	200	120
September	Home & Aunt Mary	105	130
October	Home & Aunt Mary	105	158
November	Home & Aunt Mary & Sister Schultz	115	75
December	Home & Aunt Mary	150	100
January 1969	Home & Aunt Mary	105	138
February	Home & Aunt Mary	105	110
March	Home & Aunt Mary	155	150 (replace reserve fund, usually about \$105)
April	Home & Aunt Mary	115	112
May	Home & Aunt Mary & Sister Schultz	120	135
June	Home & Aunt Mary	115	127
July	Home & Aunt Mary	110	124
August	Home & Aunt Mary	115	122
September	Home & Aunt Mary & Sister Schultz	125	125
October	Home & Aunt Mary	115	145
November	Home & Aunt Mary & Sister Schultz & Rea Gardner (my grandfather)	220	220
December	Home & Aunt Mary & Sister Schultz	285	155
January 1970	Home	\$3,160 About 21,172 in 2020 dollars	\$3,055 About 20,468 in 2010 dollars

Missionary Discussion Summary

1st discussion – The first vision of Joseph Smith; Apostasy & Restoration

2nd discussion – The Book of Mormon

3rd Discussion – The Word of Wisdom

4th Discussion - Plan of Salvation

5th Discussion – Baptism for The Dead

6th Discussion - Tithing

7th Discussion - Fellowshiping

Jerusalem - The North British Mission Song

Our Mission Song (sung to the of "Jerusalem" by C.Hubbart H. Parry).

And did those feet, in ancient time, walk upon Englands' mountain green?

And was the Holy Lamb of God, on England's pleasant pastures seen?

And did the Countenance Divine, shine forth upon our clouded hills?

And was Jerusalem builded here, among these dark satanic mills?

Bring me my bow of burning gold! Bring my arrows of desire!

Bring me my spear: O clouds unfold! Bring me my chariot of fire!

I will not cease from mental fight; nor shall my sword sleep in my hand,

'Till we have built Jerusalem, in England's green and pleasant land.

As we go forth in this mother land, seeking our kind in Isreal.

Our steps are never tread alone, for He is ever by our side.

For it's His plan that truth restored, shall fill this land from vale to moor.

And each pure soul shall hear the word, the Gospel of Jesus Christ in full.

In wards and stakes in future years, we'll read the tale we've written here.

With tools of love, and testimony bright, etched in the souls the Lord's prepared.

Who life their eyes to light divine; open their hearts and lift their hands,

And help to build Jerusalem, in England's green and pleasant land.

Film Strips

As missionaries, many of us owned projectors and tape records so that we could show film strips to investigators and members. This is one list of the titles available. I used several of these.

AUDIO-VISUAL AIDS	
Film-Strips	
AND	
Tape Narrations	
Mormons in the British Isles	
What is a Mormon?	
Early Empires of Ancient America	
Historical Highlights of Mormonism	
Bible Signs of the true Church	
Lord's Tenth	
Christ in America	
Visit to Temple Square	
Prophets Through the Ages	
And They Shall Hear My Voice	
Out of Small Things	
For the Blessing of All	
That They Might Have Joy	
First Principles and Ordinances	
Plan of Life and Salvation	
Eternal Family	
Man's Search for Happiness	
Where Jesus Walks (10/-)	
Stick of Joseph	
Mormon Pavilion	
*Saviours on Mount Zion	
*Fellow Citizens with the Saints	
*Family Home Evening	
(*Fellowshipping Discussion)	
Purpose of the Temple (24/-)	
What Happened to the Church of Christ? (20/-)	
Book of Mormon Stories	
Series of 18. (9/- each)	
	Prices
Filmstrips (unless otherwise indicated)	12/-
Tapes (state speed)	15/-
Cassettes: C.60	17/9
C.90	25/3
Postage 6d. per strip or tape	
Cardboard half-frame mounts	
1d. each or 8/- per 100	
Orders to:	
DESERET ENTERPRISES LTD.	
288 London Road, Mitcham, Surrey	
CR4 3XU. Telephone: 01-648 5235/6	

Thursday Jan. 4, 1968

I've arrived safely in Salt Lake. No complications have arisen. My blessings have been many these past two days. On the train to Ogden, I rode next to a girl named Thea Burton. She was nice, and friendly.



The Davis Train Station (this is where I caught the train to Ogden).



Christmas House in Ogden, January 1968

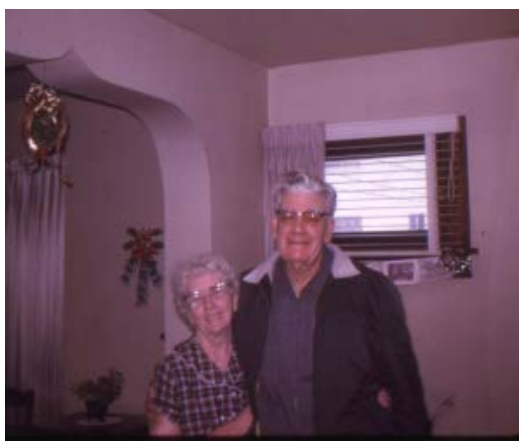


Ogden Train Station (from here, I took a bus to Salt Lake City)

At the bus station in Ogden, I met a high school mate of mine from Vacaville, Harry Truitt. What a small world. And, if brother Simons hadn't caught a small "cough" he wouldn't have been home when I called him today, because he would have gone to the temple with his wife. As it was, he stayed home. I arrived in Salt Lake about 11:00 a.m. Grant Jensen's friend, Jaada Herzog, was home. She invited me to go to her house for a visit. Just as I started walking from the Hotel Utah, I asked a stranger if I was heading in the right direction. He said yes, and I kept walking. A few seconds later, he called out for me to stop. He said he was going that way and that I could have a ride with him. It was fortunate because her house turned out to be 3 miles up some very steep hills from the Hotel.

Friday, January 5, 1968

The weather is great. Snow's all over. The sky is clear. Brother Simons took me to the bus station. He gave me five dollars. It meant as much to me as if it had been a thousand.



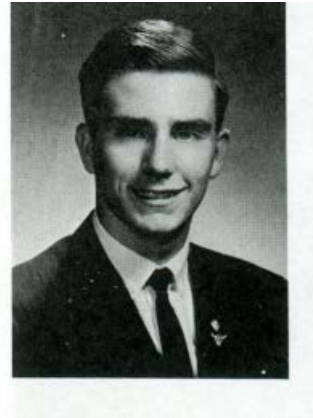
Brother and Sister Simons. I knew them while they lived in Vacaville. In January 1969, they were living in Salt Lake City, serving as temple workers.

Saturday January 6, 1968

I arrived at Provo and brother Anderson, Vic Anderson's grandfather, met me at the bus stop. Actually, I got here yesterday. We looked all over Provo trying to find Vic. After an hour and a half of searching we gave up and went home, very discouraged. About an hour later Vic phoned up and told us where to meet him. So we went to Amanda Knight Hall, one of the halls for the German speaking trainee missionaries. It was really good to see him.



Guy Fred Anderson, father of
My high school friend, Victor
Anderson



Victor "Vic" Anderson

Sunday January 7, 1968

I went to Sunday School this morning with Vic. All the speaking was in German, except the Sunday School lesson. The lesson was on love. It was excellent. I left Provo at 10:00. Jaada Herzog invited me to stay at her house overnight. Jaada and her brother Mason, met me at the bus station. They have a unique family. Mr. Herzog is dedicated to his family. Sister Herzog is a very pretty 38. When I heard she had 4 miscarriages, I nearly cried. I probably would've if I'd been alone. Jaada the oldest at 18 yrs. She is quiet and exhibits an understanding of why boys act the way they that is darn accurate. Her standards are high, as they should be. She is the kind that loves everyone. If only I had that quality. Mason, 14 yrs., has a leg that is 4 inches shorter than the other. (He was born that way).



Mason Herzog

Has he been discouraged? Not on your life! He's president of his school, is an accomplished pianist and organist, and has set records at his school in track and baseball. He's a top basketball player, too. He's small, about 5'4", 130 lbs. He reminds me of Wayne the way he constantly teaches and loves his mother. He's a natural entertainer and will eventually be a good leader. Jaada also plays piano. I went to Sacrament meeting with them, and in the afternoon just before Sacrament meeting, we went for a ride up in the mountains.



Utah Mountains, January, 1968

Monday January 8, 1968

Sister Herzog drove to the mission home. I was the first one to register. After I registered, I went down town and started looking in the stores. After they opened I started buying my books. Also I said hello to Mrs. Jensen, a friend of Grant Jensen's that works at Deseret. Classes started at 5:00. During the opening exercises, I led the music. It was a great way to begin a mission. The spirit of the Lord was in the room. I felt close to the Lord. I wish it were possible to always feel this way. In fact, I think it is possible.



Salt Lake Mission Home President Rolland L. Jaussi and his wife Sister Jaussi.

He had recently been released (Oct 1967) as President of the Irish Mission.



Jan 1969. Salt Lake Mission Home. Bronson's room was on the top floor, on the far right.

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Tuesday January 9, 1968

We got up at 5:30. What a long day. It was classes all day long. But, we enjoyed them. It was about like yesterday.

Wednesday Jan 10, 1968

Today I got set apart by Apostle Thomas S. Monson. In essence my blessing said to be prayerful, humble and to be prepared so I could face the missionary weakness: fear. He also instructed me to study the scriptures. All the blessings were different and each one simply beautiful. In the meeting just prior to being set apart, I led the music. There were about 150 people there.

There's a lady that stands out in front of the mission home and tries to prove, by the Book of Mormon and the D&C that missionary work is wrong and that the true church was restored but lost again. She pleads with us to help "restore" the priesthood. She's out there every morning when we eat breakfast, lunch and dinner. She never fails to miss a meal. She was even in front of the church office building when we were coming out from being set apart. All of today has been very uplifting spiritually. In fact this whole week has been the most spiritually edifying experience of my whole life. We've been inspired by many of the General Authorities.



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Thursday January 11, 1968

All the classes have been interesting and most of them inspiring or uplifting. I'll admit a few were monotonous, but they were the exception. We went to Welfare Square today. It's quite an operation over there. I knew it was before, but I didn't know anything from experience before. Now I know.



Friday January 12, 1968

We went to the temple today. About 2/3 of the missionaries there were going through for the first time. After the first session, the general authorities held a question and answer period. Many pertinent questions were answered. Afterwards we all went through a second session. Many pertinent questions were answered. I was thought girls had to wait until they were married to receive their endowments but most of the female missionaries were not married and they received theirs. We got up at 4:00, at breakfast at 4:30 and were in the temple at 4:45. And I didn't get to bed until 11:30. The reason for this was that one of the elders in "my group" had things to get off his mind. (I'm temporary group leader). So,...

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...I was a good listening I'm starting to know what it is to be one your own. I'm not worried though. The Lord will protect me.



1968 The Salt Lake Temple

Saturday January 13, 1968

We had our family home evening tonight. Overall, it was terrific. There was a guitar duet, a "band combo" (piano & drums) that really swing, and a Mauri song and dance by a group of Mauri missionaries. A quartet of Elders sang. In that quartet was an Elder Barker. He used to be a professional singer and action; he's about 21 yrs. Old, 5'8" , tall, black hair and black eyes. His whole manner is professional. He one of the most beautiful and powerful tenor voices I have ever heard. It was great to listen to him. He also sang a solo – The Lord's Prayer. He sang it beautifully and sincerely, and it was the best most could do to keep from shedding a few tears. He is a real sincere missionary, too. The whole evening was wonderful. I've really enjoyed this whole weeks. I wish everyone in the world could partake of the spirit and enthusiasm which is here. This has been the most special week of my life. Over 350 of us also sang "Give Said the Little Stream". Not an eye was dry. That song means many things to me.

Sunday January 14, 1968

We had sacrament meeting early this morning. Those who still needed to work on the first discussion went into their groups, depending on what part of it they were on. I've been on the 2nd discussion since yesterday. About 12:00 we were dismissed for the rest of the day to see friends, relatives, etc. Everybody left, except me and one other guy. So I laid around the mission home for a few minutes then the Herzogs came and picked me up. They drove me to their house for lunch and then drove me up into the mountains. At 7:30 we had our Farewell Testimony meeting. There approximately 900 friends and relatives there in the Tabernacle. All the missionaries sat in the choir seats. I was in the back row, on the left hand side, nearest the organ. We had at first 30 seconds to bear our testimonies, but most of the sisters took 3 or 4 minutes. Finally, they cut us down to 15 seconds apiece. I was next to last. Afterwards, the Herzogs drove me to a pizza parlor and bought me some pizza. Then they took me back to the mission home. Isn't it wonderful how you can arrive in a town, city, far from home and in just a short while have friends such as these? The gospel is great.



Elders headed to the airport.



Families and Friends say goodbye.

Monday January 16, 1968

I write as we fly from Chicago to London. I laid back and dreamt for an hour. I don't know why, but all I thought and dreamt of was Jack. I wasn't thinking of the big things, only scattered little things. We built a snowman in Virginia when I was small. Mother drove me to pick him up at school one day. We had a double birthday party, and I got a tricycle. He walked me to the show several times. We stood in from of the Gridley Theater and watched some men climb the water tower across the street. I hid a box of matches under the house, he didn't like that. We built a club house. He hit me in the head with a rock. We moved to Vacaville. I saw him on the Ulati school playground. I took him his lunch money one day. One day I was late for school (Alamo) and I took off into a drenching rain with only a shirt on, and also carrying my coronet. Jack really chastised me for that. It made me like him when got mad at me, which was often. He rode me to school one day on his new bicycle. He rode across the crosswalk instead of walking across and the traffic officer called out to stop, so I jumped off and, of course, Jack had to stop. He was furious, I was scared. Wished I would have stayed on. One night he and Marion Parmer walked me home from the show. Jack chided me ...

...about always telling on him. So I said I wouldn't tell Daddy he had seen Marion. He wanted to go across the street and play one night, but he was the baby-sitter. So, we played a game. Mary was the deputy, I was the sheriff and he was the bad guy. Mary and I locked him up in his room after we captured him. Part of the game was I wouldn't tell Mary why the door had to be locked. The reason was that he climbed out the window, played for an hour, and climbed back in again. Then I let him out of jail. Mary never found out. Then we moved to the country. He was always walking to town to see a girl. He seemed to like the walking. Then we moved to Fairfield. He was always playing pool until 12:00 or 1:00 a.m. every night. He bought an expensive pool cue. He graduated from High School. He borrowed a \$1.25 one night. The next night, while I was in town, he paid me back. He joined the Army. Finally he came home for a few weeks. They were happy weeks. He showed me some pool tricks. He was always playing his harmonica for Wayne. His favorite song was "Come, Come Ye Saints". He bought us a snack of potato chips and a drink. He bore his testimony in church. It was positive and humble. He left on a plane from Travis A.F.B. His smile was perpetual.

Six weeks later, George Clanton came over and spent the night. The next morning, Saturday May 28, 1966, at 9:00 a.m. a door knock woke me up. An Army Sergeant stood at the door and asked for the folks. They came in. He had been killed in action in Viet Name. He was paratrooper of the 176th Brigade. Still, through my tears, he was smiling. He always liked a smile. Today in my memory he is happy, smiling. I will always remember his happy, wonderful, warm smile.



Tuesday January 16, 1968



Mason Herzog The Guy Fred Andersons Richard McKay Ricky Hymus Mark, Bruce and Tom Anderson

Am I strong enough to remain faithful and true? Can I learn the gospel in order that I might teach it well to others? These and other questions will take time to answer, but I think I can make it if I have a prayer in my heart and sincerity and humility in my soul. I have friends I would trade for all the money in the world: The Ryans, Herzogs, Andersons, McKay, Hymus. The list grows everywhere I go. I just happened to think that men who are short changed in the physique department are often content because they have character. I think I am building my character. Perhaps other might learn from...

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... me to build a character. We landed in London around 7:00 a.m. We've been up since 7:00 a.m. on Monday in Salt Lake. We had a 3 hour delay in London Airport, then an hours flight up to Leeds Bradford Airport. We registered at the police station in Harrogate and changed money into English currency at the bank. Then we slept from 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 pm. After that, we had a family home evening with President Robison. Zell Nevius cooked up some supper. It was delicious. She is a great cook.



Bronson with Sister Robison



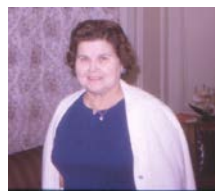
President & Sister Robison



New Missionaries Getting Briefed



Harrogate Mission home on the day I departed for Urmston



Zell Nevius



Passing through Harrogate on the way to Urmston



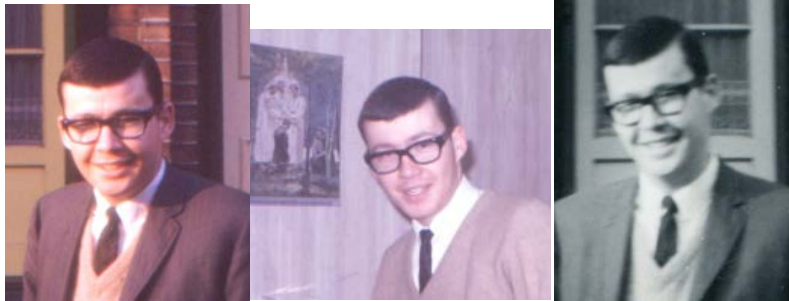
Elder Swihart and Sister Robison



Sister Missionary with Sister Robison and Zell

Wednesday January 17, 1968

After spending a day being briefed in the mission home, I finally got on board a train and arrived at my first town – Urmston, a suburb of Manchester. My companion's name is Russell Young, from Riverside, California. He has black hair, wears glasses and is about 2" taller than me. I've now begun to fulfill the dream of a life time. Being here in England is what I've always wanted. I want to serve the Lord and help build his kingdom. I've dreamt of the day my mission would begin and now I thank the Lord, it has begun. I feel this is where I belong.



Russell Young, Bronson's First Missionary Companion

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Thursday January 18, 1968

I tracted with the District Leader for an hour and a half this morning. The first street I tracted on was Derbyshire Avenue in Stretford. One family let us in, and we talked for about an hour. No telling, but there are possibilities. The first door I knocked on was slammed in my face, before I finished introducing myself. What a way to start a mission.

Friday January 19, 1968

I got fitted for two suits; the total cost of them was about 50 pounds, or roughly \$120. Just one of these suits over here would cost about \$100 so I'm saving money. Living in England is going to be exciting and tiring. We just finished about 10 hours worth of walking. Nothing to show for it except tired feet. The people don't seem to be very receptive to the gospel and us as missionaries. I wonder why? The people seem to be friendly enough, but the moment religion or church is mentioned, they turn cold, except for a few people who are honest in heart and searching for the truth. These are the people the Lord wants me to find.

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Saturday January 20, 1969

People sure are thick headed. They just tell us they're "not interested" or "some other time". It sure does test your desire to want to give these people the gospel. Out of a whole days worth of tracting, only four (4) people, for about 15 seconds, talked to us and one let us in. The poor reception over here is absolutely ridiculous.

Sunday January 21, 1969

We had four (4) people at priesthood today. During the first half of Sunday School, I had to play the piano for the children in the junior Sunday School. I also gave the adult Sunday School Lesson. There were about 12-15 persons present today. The lesson came across pretty good. One man who said he felt poor spiritually for a couple of weeks said that he had not felt so good for a long time, after Sunday School was over. The average baptism record per missionary is one or two for the entire mission. Elder Young has been out 16 months and hasn't had any. He's left a couple of families in towns he's left that have joined, but he didn't baptize them. It's not important who baptizes a person. The important thing is that they accepted the gospel. That's what the Lord is concerned about.

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Monday January 22, 1968

Today was Diversion Day. We went over to Wythenshaw at 10 a.m. and played basketball until 4 pm. Boy are we sore. Went over to Elder Torgerson's and ate supper. He baked a cherry pie for us, it was good. Then at 8:00, Elder Torgerson took me over to the Northendon chapel to attend mutual (M.I.A.) there. While we were watching the kids play, a tramp came in and asked for help. He needed a little money to pay for a train ticket. I asked everybody to chip in a little bit, and we would up with about 1 pound (or \$2.40). Elder Young said I shouldn't have done it, because he was probably a bum, but I still think it was the right thing to do.



The Manchester Stake Center



Elder Torgerson

Tuesday January 23, 1968

I gave a 1st Discussion, my first, to a Mrs. McCloughlin, who lives on Derbyshire. She accepted it really well. She's a golden lady. She wants us to come back to give it to her husband, who is supposed to be a stubborn Irish Presbyterian. Elder Young helped me out quite a bit, but I got through it pretty smoothly. My testimony of the power behind the discussions grew tremendously today.

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Wednesday January 24, 1968

The district leader, Elder Ogden, came over and I presented a second discussion to him. We made one return appointment while tracting today. Tonight we gave a simplified first discussion to the children of brother and sister Charnock, Elaine and Vance. They're going to be baptized, but President Gilmore wants them to have the discussions so they'll be ready. Tomorrow we're going over to sister Kerr's for a lunch. I wish I'd get some news from back home. I haven't seen a newspaper since leaving Vacaville. My first mail came today! – from Jaada Herzog in Salt Lake.

Thursday January 25, 1968

We tracted more today. We had an appointment with an investigator, but he stood us up. Tonight was M.I.A. There were only 10 people there, but they had fun. They had a Western Dance, but the only music anybody brought was rock 'n roll. I took some pictures of them. Graham Burton (17 yrs. Old) is the 2nd counselor in the branch presidency. He's also a semi-professional guitar player. His fingers are nimble, so he plays very nimbly fingered pieces. He also has a very strong and impressing (spiritually) testimony.



M.I. A. (mutual improvement association). Graham Burton is in the cowboy hat.

Note: The West Manchester Branch consisted of approximately 90 members from Salford, Eccles, Stretford, Urmston and Partington

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Friday January 26, 1968

Nothing really happened today. We just tracted and studied the discussions.

Saturday January 27, 1968

We took Zofia, the landlady's daughter, and Jackie, a neighborhood girl, to see Cinderella, a play put on by the Manchester Ward at the Stake House in Wythenshaw. They're both about 8 years old. We've been fasting today, because tomorrow we're going to bless brother and sister Dickenson's little boy. He has an extremely bad case of nerves and twitches all the time. However, I'm not sure how much faith his parents have. If his parents don't have faith, how can our prayers get through?



Zofia (on left) and Jackie

Sunday January 28, 1968

I taught the lesson today. We had a good discussion on basic principles. Many of these people are weak in the church. Some of their doubts and questions were answered today. But, many, too many, remain. Zofia is really a sweet little girl, I think she's won my heart. The members need all the spiritual strengthening they can get. It's unusual for me to be in a place where the church is weak. I pray it will grow.

Monday January 29, 1968

We tracted more today, but we didn't have any success. Elder Ogden, who was the District Leader of Manchester District has been made Zone Leader over our whole zone of the Land of Cumorah. Our new District Leader is Elder Michael Petersen. I was told that I'd have to give a 3rd Discussion in District Meeting on Tuesday. President Robison will be holding private interviews during the meeting. Elder Ogden is about 5'4" and is really a good Elder. Everybody really loves him.



Michael Petersen



Larry Ogden

Tuesday January 30, 1968

I presented the discussion pretty smoothly. The Elders that took the part of "Brother and Sister Brown" tried to give me a hard time, but I got through the discussion anyway. Tomorrow, Elder Ogden, the Zonie, wants me to present him with the first half of a fourth discussion. The district played basketball after the meeting. I don't know why but my reactions have really improved, so has my coordination. I'm getting stronger, too, mentally, and physically. But most of my strength, I can feel it, will come spiritually, which where I need strength the most.

Wednesday January 31, 1968

We tracted and made an appointment to return. Graham Burton took us to a folk gathering at a country club, where he and his fiancée, Margaret Barnes, played. The program started late, so after they finished we had to walk home, about 2 miles, because the bus on that run had quit running. We got home at midnight. Boy am I tired.



Graham Burton



Margaret Barnes

Thursday February 1, 1968

What a good day tracting. We made 4 return appointments, all of them at my doors, too. And, I sold my first Book of Mormon (B.O.M.). Tonight we taught Vance and Elaine Charnock and Janet Lambert. They're all just 8 years old, except Vance, who is nine. It was a real experience to be able to present a discussion to some children. But, they thought of all the answers. Elder Young presented his part without any trouble, but I was nervous because I don't know the discussions very well. It seemed to mean a great deal to brother & sister Charnock. Brother Charnock was more excited than the children were. They sure are good people.

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Friday February 2, 1968

I presented the 4th discussion to the District Leader, Elder Michael Peterson. We tracted and made a few return appointments. The people we had an appointment with were not home. Elder Young and I presented a 1st discussion to Mrs. Smith, but she couldn't accept Joseph Smith. We're going to give her a second discussion on Tuesday.



Michael Peterson

Saturday February 3, 1968

We tracted for little while, then we took care of laundry, shopping, bath, and little odds and ends. I'm tired, so I'M GOING TO BED!

Sunday February 4, 1968

We held a spiritual development meeting at the Stake house for the District. I gave a talk on gaining the spirit. Elder Young spoke on humility and Elder Smith talked on Desire. All the talks were inspiring. Again, I played the piano, but not well. I'm just thankful to be here. The whole meeting brought me closer to the Lord. I want to serve God and baptize many people. I pray the Lord will help me do this.

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Monday February 5, 1968

We just got home from the show. Today was a full day – Division day, and we and saw "Thoroughly Modern Millie." When we got off the train at Urmston, the town was covered with snow! It was great! I love the snow being here. I hope it snows tomorrow.

Tuesday February 6, 1968

It snowed all day today. It was great; we walked everywhere; the snow was about 4 inches deep. The customs office sent me a form to fill out so I could get my tape recorder that I sent over from California. I'll have to pay duty tax on it; don't know how much, yet./ We met brother and sister Saunders, the 1st counselor in the branch presidency, for a couple of hours. Well, tomorrow's another day, Goodbye Tuesday, hello Wednesday. P.S. This weather is really good for my spirit. When I left home, I was hoping and prayer that I'd be able to see the snow and live around it for a while. Now that I am around it, I'm so excited about it, it's hard to contain my enthusiasm over it.

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Wednesday, February 7, 1968

It snowed most of the day, so we went sloshing around in it and did some tracting. Nobody seemed interested. I continued to study the discussions, but besides that, nothing happened worth mentioning today, except that it's darn cold.

Thursday February 8, 1968

Today Sherman Young and I put up a sign at the Stake Center advertising an open house this coming Saturday. Sister Kerr baked me a banana cream pie. She's great. It was freezing cold today, but I didn't mind, I had my trusty thermals on.



This is the sign advertising our open house.

Friday February 9, 1968

The whole district went over to the Stake House and cleaned walls, windows, floors, and stoves. They really gave it a thorough cleaning. Elder Young and I taught the Charnock kids again. I helped give them a 4th discussion. We baptize them this month. They'll be my first baptisms in the field, even if they are members' children. They'll be Elder Young's first baptisms. Even though they're member baptisms, this will mean a lot to me.

Saturday February 10, 1968

The Manchester Stake open house was tonight. Part of the program was a basketball game between the elders and West Wythenshaw College. The elders won 132 to 118. It's the first time the elders have beaten West Wythenshaw. There were about 150 people there. For the rest of the program: there was a judo demonstration by a judo club. There were several black belts and the rest brown belts. It was really exciting. Then they showed the film, "Man's Search for Happiness". Elder Young played in the game and scored 44 points. I didn't play. Instead, Zofia Lozinka and I watched the game.



Sunday February 11, 1968

The Sunday School lesson went pretty good today. I finished "ruffling" my sticks today. I wish my check would come, I've been living off my reserve fund since the 1st of February. Mrs. Lozinka cooked us tea tonight. We read over his, Elder Young's diary tonight. He's an o.k. guy. We should do well together. I'm still a "greenie" though. There is so much for me to learn out here. I feel inadequate as far as my knowledge of the gospel goes. There is only one thing for me to do and this is to rely on the strong arm of God.



Bronson with ruffled scriptures. This was done to make page turning much easier.

Monday February 12, 1968

Today was diversion day. We went to Wythenshaw and had a district meeting, then played basketball. I got a letter from mother today. My money should be here soon.

Tuesday February 13, 1968

We got some haircuts today, and I went to the optician. I'll be getting some new glasses in about a week or so. The remainder of the day I studied my discussions and the scriptures.

Wednesday February 14, 1968

We made an appointment for the dentist for Elder Young. Then we looked for hours trying to find out where a referral lived. Finally at 8:30 tonight we located them, but it was too far to go in a half hour, so we went home. We also bought Mrs. Lozinska a small card for Valentine's Day. She's been very good to us. Mrs. Lozinska is one of the grandest, sweetest women I know. She's like a mother to everyone; everyone I talk to just loves her for her remarkable "self". There isn't anything she wouldn't do for us. By the way, I love her Polish cooking. It's fabulous. Everyone should have some of her cooking.



Mrs. Lozinska

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Thursday February 15, 1968

Sister Kerr made Elder Young and me a cherry pie. It was delicious. We managed to make one teaching appointment for a 1st discussion. Tonight we went and put up decorations at the branch building, Collingwood Hall, for a Valentine's Dance tonight. Then we ran a couple of miles to get to an appointment on time, but nobody was home. Today was Mary's birthday so, Happy Birthday Mary!

Friday February 16, 1968

Elder Petersen, the district leader, came over with his companion, Sherman Young, and worked with us. Elder Young and I found a real "golden" lady. I hope we can hang onto her. We all had fish and chips for lunch. We taught Vance and Elaine Charnock the fifth discussion. The Charnock's are a great family. I love the people and I love Urmston.

Saturday February 17, 1968

I received a letter from Grant Jensen. We went to Manchester and picked up my Sunday suit from John Collier. It fits perfectly. We washed our laundry down at the launderette, then tracted the rest of the day.

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Sunday February 18, 1968

Nobody showed up for priesthood meeting except us. There were about 35 or 40 at Sunday School. The lesson went fine. For the first time, they were actively interested and participated like a class should. Zofia went to Sacrament meeting tonight and met Elaine Charnock.

Monday February 19, 1968

Diversion Day – My check came today, finally. I cashed it at the post office and they gave me 41 one-pound notes. Then we went to Wythenshawe for a district meeting and afterwards we played basketball. It was great! I really love playing with those guys. They return the “affection”. We played until 4:30, then went home. Elder Young and I have decided to fast tomorrow so that we can find a family to teach and to baptize.

Tuesday February 20, 1968

It was cold and foggy today, as usual. The cold even chills the bones, but it doesn't bother me much. We had 2 appointments that fell through. We fasted today. If we don't find anyone by Thursdays, we'll fast Friday, if necessary on Saturday, too.

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Wednesday February 21, 1968

Tracting today we met a real intelligent and friendly man, a policeman. He's one of the best people we've talked to, except he couldn't accept the gospel, he's an atheist. We tried to give him a Book of Mormon, but he wouldn't take it. Then, tonight, we went over to brother and sister Dickenson's and visited them a couple of hours. They have a word of wisdom and tithing problem.

Thursday, February 22, 1968

Not too much happened today. We went to Manchester to John Collier's to pick up my new suit, but one of the pants were too big and the coat was too big, so they sent it back for alterations. We took some pictures of Piccadilly and then went over to sister Kerr's for lunch. But she was sick, so Elder Meacum cooked some hamburgers. Elder Sherman Young sold me his bike for 5 pounds and I rode it home. My tape recorder, that I sent from Vacaville, was there waiting for me when we got home. Then it snowed some more. I sure like the snow. It seems like it's really winter when it snows. The snow hasn't lasted very long, though. Oh well, things could be worse.

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Friday February 23, 1968

We worked with the D.L. (district leader) in the morning and in the afternoon, Elder Ogden, the zone (zone leader) gave us a test on the 6th discussion as part of the Challenge test that everyone in the mission is taking. I got 54 out of 60 and Elder Young got 55. Not bad. Then we went over to brother and sister Charnock's and taught a 6th discussion to Vance and Elaine.



Brother & Sister Charnock, with children Vance and Elaine

Saturday February 24, 1968

Today we went shopping for groceries and did our laundry and the laundromat. After that we went tracting in the afternoon, with no success and tonight we visited Graham Burton and Margaret Barnes at Sister Barnes' home. Graham played his guitar for us while Margaret sang and Elder Young recorded it.

Sunday February 25, 1968

The Sunday School lesson didn't go bad at all, in fact it was pretty good. Mrs. Lozinska cooked us tea; it was great. I gave a talk in Sacrament meeting tonight. It turned out pretty good. Elaine Charnock gave me a little pearl bracelet to give to Zofia. It was a genuine act of friendship. Even though they've only met once, Elaine really likes Zofia. I don't blame her.



Having Tea (e.g. lunch) with the Lozinska family (Elder Young on the left)

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Monday February 26, 1968

Today was full diversion day. We had a district meeting, then spent the afternoon taking pictures of Manchester Airport. In the evening we went and saw Paul Newman in "The Private War of Harry Frigg". It was a riot. We've got to work tomorrow, so that's all for now. Goodnight!



The district at the Manchester Airport

Tuesday February 27, 1968

Boy, I woke up with a cold today. I had to stay in bed all day. It's getting better now. Tonight we gave the Charnock's a review of the discussions. They're a great family. They have seven children and each one is different. Brother and Sister Charnock are getting interested in church again. President Gilmore will "test" Elaine and Vance to see if they are ready for baptism. They are.

Wednesday February 28, 1968

I still had to stay in bed with my cold. I've got a cough that won't go away. Elder Young rented a projector and we showed my movie films to the Lozinskas. I read more of the Book of Mormon today.

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Thursday February 29, 1968

We tracted this morning, but we didn't have any success. Then we went to sister Kerr's for lunch, again. As usual the food was great. She baked us a banana cream pie to take home. Nothing else happened today worth writing about.

Friday March 1, 1968

All did was tract, which means that nothing exciting happened today. We did meet some good people, but they weren't interested in Mormons.

Note: this part is not in my journal:) Then, in the evening, Elder Young took me to Manchester, without telling me what we were doing. Once we got there, we went to a theater called the Odeon and attended a "Simon and Garfunkel" concert! It really enjoyed it!

Saturday March 2, 1968

A new month has started. A former companion of Elder Young's came by to give us a couple of referrals. (note from March 26, 1969 – one of them was Elder Hendrickson who was in my district in the Lakes.)



The arrangements have been made for our baptizing Elaine and Vance Charnock. Janet Lambert, a ten-year old daughter of a member is going to baptized too. We taught Janet, but the bishop of Northington Branch will baptize her. The Charnock's have really become active. It's like converting them to the gospel all over. I really love that family. He says he was nearly illiterate before joining the church now, he reads books on medicine, complicated books. So, he's progressed quite a bit.

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Sunday March 3, 1968

Fast and testimony meeting at church was great. I studied the Book of Mormon until about 4:30 then I played with Zofia and Jackie. We went over to Manchester and had a spiritual development meeting. We listened to a tape called "Desire". You know, desire will make me a good missionary. I desire to do my best and to make my best better. With the help of God, I will. We also listened to a broadcast called "The Mormon Invasion of England". It was stupid. They really twisted all the facts and made us real bad. It'll put a lot of people off Mormons.

Monday March 4, 1968

Today was a regular work day, so we can have a zone conference on Thursday. We called on referrals and visited the Dickensons, an inactive family. He was 1st counselor in the branch presidency here, but fell away. He's well versed in the gospel and general subjects. He's real interesting to talk to him. We stayed until 11:45 p.m. WOW! Is six o'clock going to come early! Good Night!!

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Tuesday March 5, 1968

We got haircuts today and called on a referral. We began looking for a stove. We're going to replace our one burner hot plate with something that we can actually cook on. Oh boy!



Our one-burner hot plate.

Wednesday March 6, 1968

We did more referral work. We made arrangements with the Dickensons for an "open house" at their house this coming Saturday. Elder Baumas and Elder McCarley will also be there. We're going to show a film strip and tape. They also want to me to show some of my films.



Elder Baumas



Elder McCarley

Thursday March 7, 1968

Zone conference was today. It was very inspiring. I learned many new things that will help me. Elder Young received a transfer. He's going to Newcastle and leaves on Saturday. Also, President Cullimore's wife is a descendent of Archibald Gardner! Isn't it amazing how small the world is? Travel 7,000 to meet a relative. She's a grand lady. President Cullimore is an assistant to Mark E. Petersen. It makes me feel real good to know we're related.



James A. Cullimore

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Friday March 8, 1968

Elder Young packed his things today and while he was doing that, I made a recording of "Mormon Invasion of England" for brother Dickenson. The spool of tape of his was too big for Elder Young's recorder, so guess who had to sit for 40 minutes holding a spool of tape with a pencil? – me. We baptized Vance and Elaine tonight. I had to dunk Elaine twice. Elder Young baptized Vance. We confirmed them in the same order, too.



Elder Russell Young

Saturday March 9, 1968

Elder Petersen, the D.L. and his mate, Sherman Young, came over and took Elder Young to the train station. It was terribly foggy. Then I scurried and scampered around until about 3:00 cleaning up the room and buying some necessary odds and ends. Elder Despain came about 3:30. He's been out about 5 months. We'll be a good team. He's a hard worker and dedicated. He's also pleasant to be with. We held the open house at the Dickenson's tonight. We showed the film strip "What is a Mormon". Only two non-members were there, but it was a good meeting. I also showed the films of my plane trip over. They turned out pretty good.



Eric Despain

SUNDAY'S RADIO

The Mormon Invasion



10.10
RADIO
4

'THEY'RE the ones with lots of wives, aren't they?' Mud sticks—and the Mormons have been Aunt Sally for a century or more. Certainly they once did practise 'Plural Marriage' (their words)—the Old Testament seemed to condone it. But the religion that for so many

is still the faith of the libertine in fact looks darkly even on those whose only blemish is an occasional lapse with the tea pot. (Tea is 'a stimulant, a poison, forbidden.') It's on the Mormon Index—with coffee and all the rest of the 'thou-shalt-nots.'

Old beliefs die hard, but they are surely dying. For the teenage



Missionaries or insurance salesmen? Two young Mormons in Bristol

FE MARCH 3, 1968
PROGRAMME PAGES 16-18

Missionaries in dark grey suits and crew-cuts are carrying their message across the world (but not to the world; Black Africa is not proselytised). There are 2,000 Mormon missionaries in England, tramping the streets in pairs and knocking on doors, polite yet urgent. For they believe we are in the last days before the second coming of Christ and that their knock may be your last hope.

Mormons are rich and resourceful. Their liturgies and credos are festooned and furthered by anything that the new 'logies' and simple mod. con. can do, from cry-rooms in chapel and baptismal fonts with h. and c., to computers tracing Mormons back to Adam, genealogy on microfilm used to convert the dead, atom-proof cellars that await the Apocalypse, and, for the missionaries, market research.

For each missionary is a salesman who has learned a sales-talk which he has memorised, question and answer. What he says at our doors are lines he is reciting. Cold-blooded? Realistic? It's what sells life insurance, why shouldn't it sell life after death?

It does. With the Maharishi, theirs is one of the few religions that are growing fast.

ROGER MILLS

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Sunday March 10, 1968

We took Zofia and Mrs. Lozinska to Stake Conference at Wythenshaw. They enjoyed it. So did I, the speakers were tremendous.

Monday March 11, 1968

We all diverted today by playing another district in a basketball game. Nobody knows who won, we lost track of the score. Besides, it last continuously from 1:30 to 3:30. It was a lot of fun. We tracted a new area tonight. We sold 2 B.O.M.'s and obtained 16 call backs. Elder Despain and I should do great together. He has a find spirit and is very eager to share the gospel.

Tuesday March 12, 1968

Elder Despain cashed his check and was measured for a suit. In the afternoon we tracted, with no success. Mrs. Lozinska made us tea. We had rice and carrot soup and noodles and meat balls. Delicious. Then we tried to find 3 referrals. Whew! We called from 6:30 to 7:30 trying to find the first one, then discovered we were in the wrong area! It was almost an hours walk to the second referrals house. Then, she wasn't home. So we caught a...

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...bus into Chorlton to find the 3rd one. From the bus stop at Chorlton to his house. Then when we got there, we were to he had moved in August, 1967. We were given his name and address, so we'll send in a referral on him. What a night! We must have walked 12 miles or more.

Wednesday March 13, 1968

We tracked in the morning and afternoon. Then we went to call on 12 of our 16 call backs. They all said "no. I found out today that 1 out of 2,000 people contacted tracting will be baptized. 1 out of 5 will be baptized if they're a referral. Any question as to which is the better method? We're starting the "I Care" program here as soon as we get President Gilmore's support, which should be this Friday. We also sold one Book of Mormon. The thing that is most important is to have the members help and support. That's the only way the church is going to grow the way it should in England. When the members themselves become really close and united and take time to fellowship properly, the church will grow. But too many of the members not united or loyal as they should be.

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Thursday March 14, 1968

Tonight we met with an Anglican Men's Club. A vicar was present. We showed the film "What Happened to the Church of Jesus Christ". Peter Lee, our stake missionary president, gave a short talk on the Book of Mormon and I explained briefly the auxiliaries of the church. Then we had a question period. At first the vicar tested us by trying to poke fun at us, but didn't succeed. So he decided to really discuss it, with a glass of beer in his hand. (p.s. our meeting was held above a pub.) They brought up many questions, some loaded, but we succeeded in turning all objections to the Book of Mormon. The spirit of understanding was there. I felt someone was interested, but I don't know who. We passed out Book of Mormons and pamphlets in the end. We left in an atmosphere of friendship and respect.

Friday March 15, 1968

In tracting this afternoon, I haltingly explained (in Spanish) to a Spanish woman who we were. We left her a B.O.M. Booster, but she's a strong Catholic. Tonight we met with President Gilmore and his two counselors, Brother Saunders, and Graham Burton. We discussed the branch buying Collingwood Hall for its own use. At present, they only rent it.

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Also, we asked for, and got, their support on the "I Care" program. They're all enthusiastic about it. In fact, they had wanted us to start it before we asked. We sold a B.O.M. tonight.

Saturday March 16, 1968

We took care of our necessary essentials, such as laundry, shopping for food, etc. Then we took a bath over at the Urmston bath houses. Tracting wasn't successful at all, so we only tracted 'til about 8:30 tonight and then came home. We watched a little television with the Lozinska's. She made us some Karo and little sandwiches to eat.



The Urmston Bath House Swimming Pool.



A bath stall at the Urmston Bath House.

Sunday March 17, 1968

The lesson today was on the mission of the Holy Ghost. Boy, there's so much that these people just don't understand about the church. The way they kick and have a hard time accepting some facets of the gospel, you'd think they were investigators. To me, it shows how much they need to progress in their faith. I often think how can the Lord bless us with new members if the old members are so "faithless" about some things.

Monday March 18

Diversion Day today. We played basketball with the Stockport District. It was a lot of fun. Tonight we tracted and sold a Book of Mormon.



Bronson (on the left) and Eric Despain

Tuesday March 19, 1968

We got up at 6:00 and left about 9:00. All we did today was tract. Since there's no unusual tracting experience to write about, I won't write any more about it.

Wednesday March 20, 1968

The rain continues to come down. It's been raining since yesterday. We even had some snow fall. We tracted up a man and gave him and a friend of his a second discussion. We sold them each a Book of Mormon. We've been blessed with these men. I hope they will come to know the truth of the gospel. The gospel is wonderful. If people would just take time to examine it, they would find a way of life that would give them eternal joy. The trouble with most people is that they don't care about becoming better. Some are so apathetic, it's pathetic. I wish everyone would listen and have their lives uplifted and ennobled and glorified and exalted.

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Thursday March 21, 1968

The District Leader has a new companion. His name is Elder Baxter. Elder Petersen took us surveying today. I went with Elder Baxter and Elder Petersen went with Elder Despain. I learned a lot from doing it.

Friday March 22, 1968

In the morning we tracted. The zone leader spent most of the afternoon giving us the phase III part of the Challenge test, a mission test. My phase II score was about 39 of 54. My phase III score was about 79 out of 94. Elder Despain and I got the same scores so far. We gave an I Care discussion to the Charnock's. They received it really well.

Saturday March 23, 1968

It started like a normal Saturday, but it finished like a scene out of Mad Magazine. We finished studying at 8:00 and were finished eating and cleaning up at 9:00. We had planned to tract during the morning and work at the Urmston Branch's Relief Society Jumble Sale. Then the post came. It reminded Elder Despain of a wedding reception he...

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...had promised to attend this afternoon. So we spent the morning doing laundry and setting up the jumble. We waited for about an hour and half for the bride and groom to come. We were back to the jumble sale about 3:00 (It's an hours bus ride from Urmston to Wythenshaw). We bought a coat rack that has a mirror on it and some kitchen utensils. We got home about 5:00. Then we gave Mrs. Lozinska a pot of flowers for Mothers Day. Then we ate tea and planned out our next week's work. The Lozinska's left for the evening so we decided to help her redecorate our room by tearing off the old wall paper. When they came home she about died laughing. She didn't stop laughing for about 20 minutes either. This has been a day to remember.

Sunday March 24, 1968

Today was England's Mother's Day so there was no priesthood or Sunday School lesson. In the afternoon we went out and had a discussion with a Pentecostal family. (They were hopeless). I talked in Sacrament meeting tonight on the Book of Mormon. It was a good talk, but the kids were real noisy.

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Monday March 25, 1968

We helped Mrs. Lozinska this morning by peeling off the rest of the wall paper and knocking down the fireplace. We had it cleaned up by 10:30. Then we went to Wythenshaw for Diversion Day. We played basketball until about 4:30. After we showered and changed, Elder Petersen took us all over to Sister Booth's for his 21st birthday party. He was real happy. We had a good time too. We came home and it's about midnight. I just finished a letter to Grant Jensen. So – Good Night!



Tuesday March 26, 1968

In tracting today we met a group of college boys and talked with them for about half an hour. They're packing up to leave for Easter vacation or we would've taught them a 2nd discussion. We sold them a Book of Mormon and we'll be back to see them when they return. The Book of Mormon is the key to the whole church. I know this book is true beyond doubt. My prayers have been answered concerning it. The people ask us to prove there is a God. I ask them to study the BOM. If a person is humble and sincere, he will find this book to be the word of God.

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Friday March 29, 1968

I haven't written for two days, but all we've done is tract, so there wasn't anything to write about. Tonight we were ushers for the Manchester Stake Choir Concert at the Albert Hall. They performed great, but the Oxfam advertisers didn't give us any support until today. Only about 150 or so showed up. We had room for 1000. Next time we'll pack the hall.

Saturday March 30, 1968

I received a letter from Glenda Smith, who I haven't seen for five years, and a Linda Moore, who I've never met. We met some good people tracting. Things are going great. I love the work more each day.

Sunday March 31, 1968

Another month already over. Time goes by so quickly. We looked for a few referrals but no luck. Elder Despain and I went with Mrs. Lozinska and Zofia to Mass, Catholic. To see the paganism there makes me grateful I have the truth. I know that Christ setup up a Church without the pagan rituals everyone uses today. It's easy to understand the apostasy in view of these practices.

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Monday April 1, 1968

Full Diversion Day today. We went down to a place called Chester to see the sights. There's a massive old Cathedral there. Elder Ogden gave us the "Big Push" Program. We're all going to work extra hard for it. Mrs. Lozinska told us the buses weren't running today. We fell for it (temporarily). April Fools!

Tuesday April 2, 1968

We tracted in the morning and afternoon. We also taught a Miss Colton a first discussion. I don't know what she's going to be like. We put out three Books of Mormon today.

Wednesday April 3, 1968

We look all over Partington for a year old referral and got packed in. We had a fine discussion with a family tonight and left them a book of Mormon. The way our front room looks, it seems like a bomb must have exploded in there. We helped them for a couple of hours after we finished working. Then Mrs. Lozinska gave us some pie and Karo. She's great. She's one of the finest people I've met anywhere. It must be her Polish blood.



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Thursday April 4, 1968

We sold two Books of Mormon tracting today. Elders Meacum and Preston cooked lunch today because Sister Kerr is ill. They made spaghetti with hamburger. We taught Sister Lambert an "I Care" Discussion. She received it well.



Elder Preston

Friday April 5, 1968

We tracted only two hours this morning. Then Elder Ogden came over and taught us the phase IV test. Elder Despain and I both got 56 points out of 74 or 75 possible. Actually it was a pretty good score. We gave a first discussion to Roger Alderson. He's golden, but he's going back to school at Cambridge next week. He's read $\frac{3}{4}$ of the B.O.M. and has had the first two discussions. He's undecided but has received everything without difficulty. He's smart too. He was always giving us the answers before we asked the questions. We showed the Charnocks the film "What Happened to the Church of Jesus Christ?". A wonderful spirit was there. We're going to bless their little son, Jeff, who is five years old and has difficulty speaking. These people have a simple, warm faith that is inspiring to me.

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Saturday April 6, 1968

We washed clothes, took a bath, and did some shopping. Then we discovered we both had left our keys inside and that we were locked out. We had to wait an hour and a half for "grannie" to come home and let us in. Between the two of us, we have 26 shillings. It was 21 shillings until we sold a Book of Mormon for 5 shillings. Tomorrow Elder Despain and I will be privileged to bless Jeff Charnock. He's five years old and has a speech problem. We fasted today. The spirit has been very good. The Charnocks are also fasting.

Sunday April 7, 1968

The spirit has been great all day. After Sunday School, we blessed Jeff in the upper room of Collingwood Hall. Then we went to Wythenshaw for a spiritual development meeting and to listen to General Conference over the radio. We heard a tape of Friday's session and we heard "live" this morning's session. We were all touched by its fine spirit. Today was the beginning of our "Big Push" week. It was a good way to start it. I love the conferences.

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Monday April 8, 1968

Today was full diversion day, but instead of diverting, we worked. All we did was tract. Tonight we also helped the Lozinska's redecorate our room

Tuesday April 9, 1968

We looked up four referrals. No luck. Elder Petersen and Elder Baxter came to work with us. I tracted with the District Leader and Elder Despain worked with Elder Baxter. They sold a Book of Mormon. Tonight Elder Despain and I taught Bill Farely and his wife a 1st Discussion. They have trouble believing in Christ, but they can be taught the gospel.

Wednesday April 10, 1968

Everything we did today seemed to turn out wrong. We called on an inactive member and she said she wanted to be excommunicated. Then some referrals packed us in. We had a teaching appointment that fell through. We tried tracting and no one would even talk to us. Only about 10% of the people were home anyway. Since today was half-day and Sunday is Easter, most people were shopping.

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Thursday April 11, 1968

I lost the tracting record today. We searched the house and looked all over town for it. Boy, am I sick. We had about 50 call backs, some of whom bought Books of Mormon. We can't even re-tract that area. We've tried hard to be successful this week, but I'd let my pride build up inside to the point where I was praising myself for we accomplished last week. This must be why God has made this week unprofitable, so that I might be humbled and praise God for our success instead of myself.

Friday April 12, 1968

We looked all over for our tracing record; no luck. Perhaps it will turn up one of these days. Our room downstairs is almost finished. They put up some more wall paper. We visited the Charnocks tonight and showed them "The Purpose of the Temples". He doesn't hold the priesthood yet, but they've just made him M.I.A. superintendent for the branch. Jeff is doing a lot better now. He'll be all right. He'll be taken good care of by the Lord because of the faith of his parents. I'm sure of that.

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Saturday April 13, 1968

Elder Despain and I went into Manchester to pick up a suit he'd ordered. It's a grey suit. Then we dropped by the Charnocks and gave them a couple of Book of Mormons. Mrs. Lozinska took us to the midnight Mass; the church is at the end of Roseneath Road (about 200 yards from here). There's just so much paganism in the Catholic Church, it's hard to believe. I felt spiritually dead when we got back.

Sunday April 14, 1968

East has arrived so soon. It hardly seems possible that I've already been out 3 months. My mission is 10 percent over and I haven't accomplished anything. Well, except for this morning. As we walked out the door, I kicked three one-pint bottles of milk for a field goal. What a mess! Milk and glass everywhere. Oh, well, no use crying over spilt milk.

Monday April 15, 1968

We went to Bellevue Park for D-Day. We bowled, and then walked around the park. I won't attempt to describe all the lurid things we saw there, but it was like a miniature golf course (e.g. code for Sodom and Gomorrah).

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Tuesday April 16, 1968

I received a letter from President Robison making me co-senior companion to Elder Despain. We did a little shopping and made some call backs. Then Elder Despain bought a bicycle so we could travel more freely. Tonight we went out and looked over a new tracting area. When we came home we were really bushed. But, we'll get used to it.

Wednesday April 17, 1968

On the way out to our new tracting area, Elder Despain had a flat tire, so we had to fix it. Then we set out for Irlam. Before we arrived there, I had a flat tire right in front of a Church of England Chapel. We went home, fixed it and came back. Irlam is on the opposite side of the Manchester Ship Canal. The ferry wasn't running so we walked across the locks. I believe this may be a good area for tracting. It's about a half hour bike ride from Urmston, but that's not very much. Well, I'm tired from all the bike riding, today, so good night! By the way, when I get tired by serving the Lord, I feel as if he blesses me with extra strength and power to service him. I'm grateful to him for that.



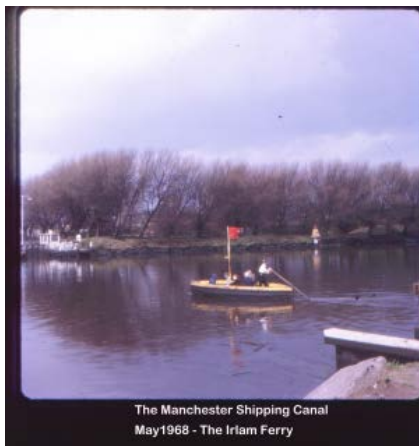
Bronson Gardner in Irlam



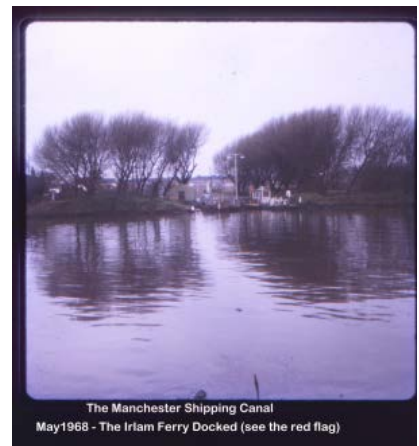
Bronson Gardner in Irlam



Eric Despain in Irlam



The Manchester Shipping Canal
May 1968 - The Irlam Ferry



The Manchester Shipping Canal
May 1968 - The Irlam Ferry Docked (see the red flag)

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Thursday April 18, 1968

Tonight brother Charnock took us over to his brother's house to teach him the gospel. We gave them a 2 hour first discussion. Brother Charnock told the Joseph Smith Story and bore his testimony throughout. It seems like they accepted it. Before we left, Mrs. Charnock asked us to give her a blessing, which we did. It shows the responsibility we have of being prepared at all times to be worthy of exercising the priesthood.

Friday April 19, 1968

We didn't anything important except tract all day. But we didn't have any success. So that's about all there is to say.

Saturday April 20, 1968

After we finished working, we went to the M.I.A. Easter Dance. Really it was just a gathering. When we arrived the kids had me wait outside until they made ready a surprise for me. They took me in and started playing a record I had was my favorite. They treated me like royalty. Anyway, it was fun.

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Sunday April 21, 1968

We had two investigators come to Sunday School this morning. One of them, named Allen, wanted a copy of the Book of Mormon, so I gave it to him. The other one, Paul, is a college student in Stretford. Brother Boden, a member here, had all the adults meet with him after Sunday School to say he wanted to be disfellowshipped. The reason: he's been living adultery for 30 years.

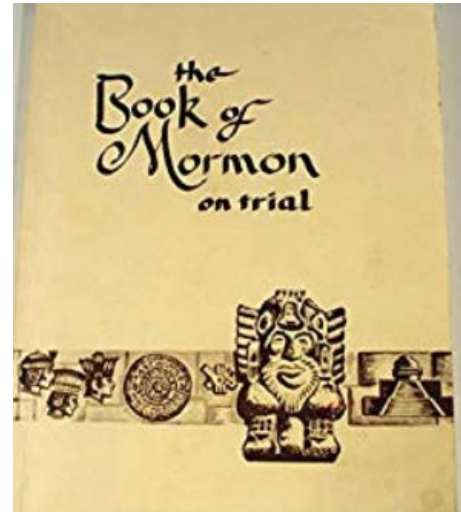
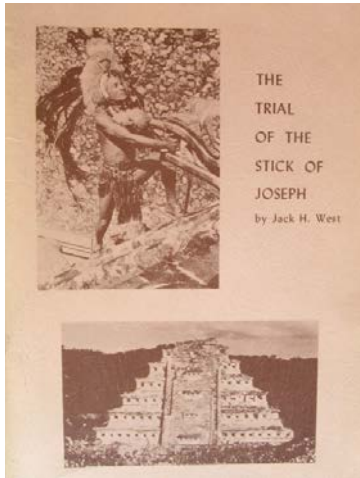
Monday April 22, 1968

Today in district meeting we took the last part of the Challenge phase tests. I'm afraid I didn't do as well as I should have done. I've learned an important lesson: if you want to excel gloriously wonderful on a test, which might last only an hour, it takes literally weeks, or even months, of devoted concentrated effort. I had wanted to win this contest for "Top Greenie" Division, but I've gained something more important than winning a contest: and that is a desire to know the gospel. We tracted tonight and sold 2 Book of Mormons. That the real reason I'm here & others are too: to spread the gospel to people

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Tuesday April 23, 1968

We had three teaching appointments today and they all fell through. The package from home with "The Trial of the Stick of Joseph" and "Book of Mormon on Trial" books came today. An application to go to B.Y.U. arrived. I've decided that's where I want to go to school. We sold a couple of B.O.M.'s and lent Bill Farely a "B.O.M. on Trial" book. It's been a good day except for the drenching rain.



Wednesday April 24, 1968

We sold another Book of Mormon today and looked up some old referrals and people previously taught. There was a big football match at Old Trafford today and not many people were home. We had lunch as sister Kerr's today because tomorrow her daughter, Penny, is leaving to go to Florida to attend school. Everyone in Manchester loves the Kerr's. I really love them as people; and the lunches they give us, too. It didn't rain today, thank goodness. The rain is wonderful and is needed very much, so maybe we shouldn't complain. England needs the rain. Rain keeps everything green and beautiful and England's probably one of the greenest places there is anywhere.

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Thursday April 25, 1968

We found some good people tracting this morning and sold a Book of Mormon. But one street we did this afternoon was terrible. The homes were really upper-class and the people were lifted up in the pride of their hearts. We decided to leave that particular area and do another one. I left that street feeling void of the proper spirit.

Friday April 26, 1968

Nothing seemed to go right today. I went to the hospital to have my in-grown toenails removed, but they told me it would be another three or four weeks before they could do anything. National Health system you know. We taught a second discussion today. We were going to teach the brother of brother Charnock, but we got packed in. I was sure disappointed, he really seemed golden. Well, there's a silver lining in every cloud. So, goodnight world; tomorrow's a brand new day. Whenever I get feeling a bit down I always think that tomorrow is another day and that it's the future that we should be grateful for. Grateful for the opportunities, changes, and blessings. So, if you're ever blue, remember the future is there for you.

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Saturday April 27, 1968

We went shopping and did laundry this morning. I received a letter from Grant Jensen. He's fine. I wish we could teach as much as they've been teaching. Grant said in one week they teach 15 discussions. In a month, we teach five. That's the difference between the Canadians and the English. We tracted this afternoon, but still no luck.



Grant Jensen, my friend from Vacaville. I named my first son, Grant, after him.

Sunday April 28, 1968

The less went tremendously well today. The branch members here in Urmston seem to have changed. They've become positive about their attitudes toward the gospel. Instead of asking critical questions, they're asking constructive, thoughtful ones. They want to learn. They're concerned about their image to investigators. They've become unified in spirit and are not now individualistic. It's impossible to describe the change except to say that they have the spirit love. It's truly a remarkable change. When I first came, they were bickering over the most improbable things. They dwell entirely too much on deep doctrine when they don't have a good understanding of basic principles. The one thing people need to this of more is faith, repentance, etc.

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Monday April 29, 1968

It was diversion day. Elder Petersen held district interviews. We had a real spiritual district meeting. We talked a lot about the contents of the books "Temples of the Most High" and "Mormon Doctrine". Then we visited the Manchester City Museum. We had a teaching appointment, but it fell through.

Tuesday April 30, 1968

Today's the last day of the month. I can't believe the month is already gone. The fender on my bicycle broke off today. We fixed it and went tracting. Elder Petersen came over and delivered us some more Books of Mormon.

Wednesday May 1, 1968

We've enjoyed a good day in the spirit. Elder Despain and I marked some B.O.M's and took care of details pertaining to an open house we're going to have on May 23rd. Barclay's Bank just opened a new branch here on Monday so we transferred our accounts. Oh, yesterday, we found out why Irlam, part of our area, has been unsuccessful there. A couple of years ago, the elders lived there and left their landlady's daughter pregnant.

Thursday May 2, 1968

Nothing happened today, but it was one of those days when everything seems to be just a little bit out of focus. Except once, when I bore my testimony. Then everything felt great. At Sister Kerr's today, I re-recorded "Mormon Invasion of England" and "It All Adds Up". "It All Adds Up" is a great talk by Richard L. Evans. It is great. But "Mormon Invasion" is pretty disgusting.

p.s. I'm losing my hair.

Friday May 3, 1968

Elder Petersen, the D.L., went tracting with us this morning. We made a few good return appointments. Elder Despain and I taught Mrs. Cook a 1st Discussion. (She's had a 2nd discussion). She couldn't accept a need for apostles. We visited the Charnock's and gave them an "I Care" discussion. Everyone was home except brother Charnock. (There's 7 children). They're a really remarkable family. I think that besides the branch President, President Gilmore, they're the backbone of the branch. They have an implicit faith in the power of the priesthood and they love the elders. I've never felt so much love from people as from the Charnocks. The world needs more people like them.

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Monday May 6, 1968

Diversion day today. Yesterday we had a spiritual development meeting at Wythenshawe Stake Center. The spirit was very strong. Everyone was humbled. All eyes were wet. It was a choice experience. Today, we played golf on a chip 'n putt course. It was a lot of fun. Everyone enjoyed it.

Tuesday May 7, 1968

We went to Manchester this afternoon and rented a typewriter so we could type some advertisements for the open house on May 23rd. We're going to show the film "Man's Search for Happiness." The family we were supposed to teach tonight was suddenly called away on business and went to London. Some sound tracks I ordered from the mission home came. My check came also.

Wednesday May 8, 1968

It rained again today. We saw President Gilmore at the store and spoke to him about a social he's having at his house on Saturday. We taught Mr. Orr a 1st discussion tonight. He's going on vacation to Ireland we won't see him for a few weeks.

IT ALL ADDS UP – By Richard L. Evans

We have become increasingly aware lately of the so-called exact sciences—of mathematical formulas, for example, from which can be forecast the forces of the inner atom and the orbiting of outer areas.

Order is evident in all of this—order, and the mind of an Infinite Administrator. But he whose infinite orderliness is everywhere in evidence, has not left his children without laws of life that lend to results as sure, as certain, as the laws pertaining to physical phenomena—laws of health, moral laws, counsel, and commandments. There has been a tendency by some to say that this age-old counsel on conduct may have served a purpose in the past, but is no longer essential to human happiness. But it simply isn't so.

There is no evidence that loose thinking or lax living or so called emancipation from morals and manners has brought peace or happiness or progress to anyone—ever. And the Father of us all, in his love and wisdom pertaining to his children, hasn't said "Thou shalt" and "Thou shalt not" for no particular purpose.

As Emerson said: "The world looks like a multiplication-table or a mathematical equation, which, turn it how you will, balances itself. . . . You cannot do wrong without suffering wrong. ... A man cannot speak but he judges himself. . . . Every secret is told, every wrong redressed, in silence and certainty. . . . The thief steals from himself. The swindler swindles himself. . . . Men suffer all their life long, under the foolish superstition that they can be cheated. But it is . . . impossible for a man to be cheated by anyone but himself. . . . What will you have? quoth God; pay for it and take it . . . thou shalt be paid exactly for what thou hast done, no more, no less." To use the mathematical vernacular: It all adds up. As William James worded it: "Every smallest stroke of virtue or of vice leaves its never so little scar." - Every thought and act and utterance is being counted "among the molecules and nerve cells and fibers." . . . "Nothing we ever do is in strict scientific literalness wiped out."

It all adds up. No amount of rationalizing can cancel out the fact that peace and quiet come with keeping clean, with keeping the commandments, and no amount of rationalizing can save us from the consequences of misconduct. We are the sum of the thoughts we think; of the habits we have, of all we do and have done. We are the sum of all our actions and attitudes and utterances, of all things stored in body and mind and memory. The laws given by a loving Father are always in force and always effective. His advice is worth taking, his commandments worth keeping. It all adds up.

"The Spoken Word," from Temple Square presented over KSL and the Columbia Broadcasting System, June 12, 1960. Copyright 1960.

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Thursday May 9, 1968

We had lunch as sister Kerr's today. She's been to the doctor and doesn't look too well. She's says it's kidney trouble. After we finished tracting, we talked a little bit more to President Gilmore about this social on Saturday. Elders Meacum and Preston might bring Mrs. Rosco, a Negro, to it. I hope they do.

Friday May 10, 1968

The rain hasn't stopped yet. (5 days of it now). Boy, is this crazy weather for May. Elder Despain's bicycle blew a tire. He wound up having to buy a new rim because his old one was worn out. I wish I'd get some more mail about news back home. We haven't seen a news program or newspaper for nearly two weeks. If only somebody would write some letters with news and interesting things, I'd be more content with my mail. As it is, I'm getting enough letters, it's just that most of them don't say much. I shouldn't complain though. I know the folks at home love me. That's all that really matters. Anything else is secondary. I not only want love, I want to express the love I feel to others. That's why I'm here.

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Saturday May 11, 1968

We went to Partington to attend Pres. Gilmore's home social. There were 17 people there. Elders Meacum and Preston brought brother Rosco, a Negro, who is an investigator. He has a good spirit. Since sister Gilmore is a negro, and so are the children, it'll help him have the courage to be baptized. We showed the films "Man's Search for Happiness" and "Persuasion". It was a very good evening. Everybody enjoyed themselves.

Sunday May 12, 1968

I had to switch the lesson this morning. Brother Charnock's sister-in-law came. So instead of talking on baptism for the dead, we talked on the basic principles: faith, repentance, etc. Brother Charnock was ordained a deacon today.

Monday May 13, 1968

Full diversion day today. We had district meeting in a deer park. The weather was beautiful. It was very spiritual. It was very inspiring. Then we all went to a 1000 year old Church of England building (Church building). It's really something to climb up passage ways less the 4 feet wide and that have...

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...a slope of 60 degrees. The arches are 5'8" high. The reason, because a 1000 years ago, a man 5'6" was considered a big man. After that, we played a group of English kids in a game of football (English style). We won 5-3. It was a lot of fun. Then we went to the movies and saw "Around the World in 80 Days". It's been a full and satisfying D-Day.

May 13, 1968. Manchester District Missionaries – gathering at the Wythenshaw Stake Center, preparing to drive to Dunham Massey Park.



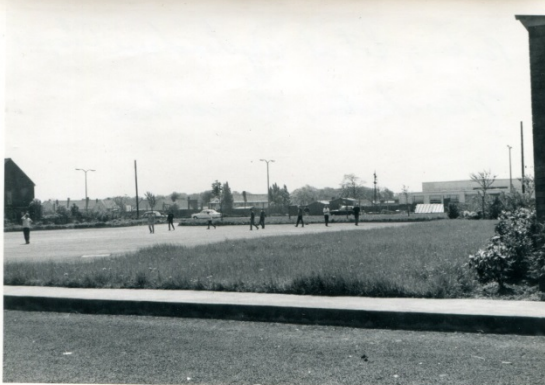
*Left To Right
Elder Despain
Elder Torgerson
Elder Petersen
Elder Stuart
Elder M. Carley
Elder Whittaker
Wythenshaw Stake House
May 1968*



Elder Torgerson



Elder Torgerson



May 1968 - Parking Lot at the Wythenshaw Stake House - Manchester





Dunham Massey Deer Park (note the deer herd near the trees). May 13, 1968



Dunham Massey Park, near Altrincham Greater Manchester



Left to right:

Meacum, Stuart, Baxter, Torgerson, Peterson, Preston, Whittaker, Despain, McCarley. May 13, 1968



Elder Baxter - May 1968

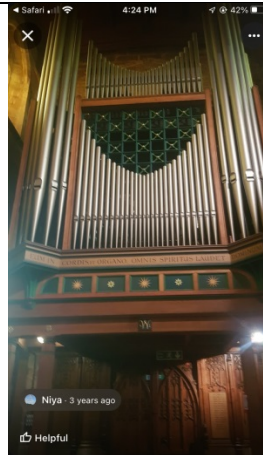
Dunham Massey Park, near Altrincham Greater Manc

<p>May 13, 1968</p> <p>Visit to Saint Wilfrid in Northenden, Near Manchester</p>	<p>Parish History [edit] [edit source]</p> <p>NORTHEN, or Northenden (St. Wilfrid), is a parish, in the union of Altrincham, hundred of Macclesfield, North division of the county of Chester; containing, with the tything of Northen-Etchells, it is 7 miles S from Manchester. The parish is situated on the River Mersey.^[1]</p> <p>Northenden St. Wilfrid is an ancient parish in Cheshire including Etchells and Northen Etchells. Norwordine (North clearing) may have been a Saxon settlement and the dedication to Saint Wilfrid the 8th century Bishop of York may suggest that he visited the place.</p> <p>The first record of the village is in the Domesday Book (1086), in which the church is mentioned, though the manor is described as vasta ~ devastated.</p>
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<div> </div> <div> <p>1968 - May 13 St. Wilfrid Northenden Church Note the plaque on the left, tribute to husband William Tatton and Wife Hester Egerton</p> </div>	<div> </div> <div> <p>2023 Nov – Internet Photo of the stained glass window</p> </div>
<div> </div> <div> <p>Internet Photos of the plaques show in the above photo.</p> </div>	<div> </div> <div> <p>Internet Photos of the plaques show in the above photo.</p> </div>



May 13, 1968. The Organ in Saint Wilfrid in Northenden, Near Manchester.



Internet photo of the organ in Saint Wilfrid Church in Northenden.



May 13, 1968. Views from the tower of Saint Wilfrid in Northenden, Near Manchester.



May 13, 1968. Views from the tower of Saint Wilfrid in Northenden, Near Manchester.

Tuesday May 14, 1968

Mrs. Lozinska was very surprised today. She takes in work from a Mr. Cossack and does it in her home. She glues parts for hand bags together. She accidentally found out that instead of getting 22 shillings a gross that Mr. Cossack had been giving her, she's supposed to get getting 45 shillings a gross. Mr. Cossack's only been giving her half-price. Boy, everybody's a little "burned up" right now. He's been doing this to 7 other ladies. In 5 months he's profited at least 900 pounds off 7 women. I think he ought to be shot.

Wednesday May 15, 1968

Not much happened. All we did was tract. Nobody was responding. In fact, not too many people were answering the door. Mrs. Lozinska is still chapped off about Mrs. Cossack.

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Thursday May 16, 1968

President Robison held personal interviews at Wythenshawe today. He told me I was doing good. He said he wanted me to have an opportunity to baptize. So, if we don't find somebody soon, I'll probably be transferred. President Robison is a humble, dedicated, loving and inspired person. He's a great leader. It's a thrill just to talk to him.



Wythenshawe Stake Center

Friday May 17, 1968

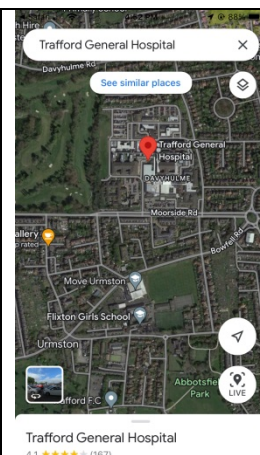
We tracted and sold a B.O.M. this morning. At 1:00 this afternoon, I went into the hospital. I went in with 10 toenails. At 5:30, I came out with 8 toenails. I was real dopey from the anesthetic. My toes are too painful to walk on. Elder Despain and Mrs. Lozinska made our couch in our room into a bed, and I'm sleeping on that. That's all I've done for the rest of the night was sleep. I feel tired from the operation. My toes are bandaged up and I cannot see them, but they sure do hurt. If I'd have known exactly what this operation meant, I may have had second thoughts, but the decision was mind and I'm glad I went through with it. As soon as they are recovered, they'll never bother me again.



My Feet after my big toenails were removed.



Trafford General Hospital – where Bronson's big toenails were removed.



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Saturday May 18, 1968

I slept until about 10:00, ate breakfast, and slept until 2:00. Then I had some lunch. Zofia and Jackie made me a get well card and brought me some candy. I sat up and read for a while. After eating tea, I rested and slept some more. Everybody's taking good care of me.

Sunday May 19, 1968

Elder Petersen and Elder Baxter came over to get the report. Sister Gilmore took over the Sunday School class for me. I understand she did a real good job. I wrote a few letters today and slept. About 7:30 I watched television. Brother Saunders came by and brought me some apples and oranges.

Monday May 20, 1968

I finished reading the Pearl of Great Price today. It was a pretty boring D-Day really. All I've been able to do is sit in bed. Brother Saunders brought me a lemon meringue pie, homemade by Sister Saunders. It was delicious. I'm grateful for the concern of the members. The people here are good, kind-hearted people.

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Tuesday May 21, 1968

Breakfast in bed again. Boy, all this hand service I'm getting will spoil me for working if I'm not careful. We had a teaching appointment, so Elder Petersen went and taught her with Elder Despain while Elder Baxter and I had joint study. This lady received the 1st real well, but we don't know what her husband is like. Bill Farely wanted us to go down to Flixton to teach him, but we had to cancel out.

Wednesday May 22, 1968

I think I'm getting better, it's not as painful. Today I read more, worked on my flip chart and chain referenced my Bible some. The Lozinska's took us to Manchester to a Polish Church. Services were all in Polish. The open house tomorrow is going to be rough, I don't know how we'll manage.

Thursday May 23, 1968

We didn't go to sister Kerr's today. The open house flopped. The bulb for the movie projector broke, so we had to play a film strip. Elder Petersen had brought us down in the van so we could attend.

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Friday May 24, 1968

I finally moved back upstairs into the bed room. It's good to be where I belong. Elder Ogden, former D.L. and Zonie of mine, has been released from his mission and is going home. His mother came to Manchester to pick him up. In fact his mother and Elder Despain's mother are good friends (They come from the same area in Utah.). Elder Despain talked to her over the phone for a while.

Saturday May 25, 1968

Besides eating tea with the Lozinska's all we did was read and watch some television. Tomorrow is Stake Conference.

Sunday May 26, 1968

Stake Conference was great. I saw Elder Young. He's out of the mission home now. He just had two car accidents. He smashed up a van and wrecked the assistants' Viva. A lot of people turned out for conference. IT was a good day for being in the spirit. I saw a lot of Elders that I hadn't seen for a "long" time. I like the Stake President, Brother Plumbley; he has a go-tee type beard & looks like a beatnik, almost, but not really. It was an enjoyable day.



NEW MANCHESTER STAKE PRESIDENCY

Sustained at recent Manchester Stake Conference were, from left, A. M. McCormack, first counsellor; Pres. D. J. Plumbley; and J. H. Weightman, second counsellor. Standing is former Stake Pres. William Bates. Reorganisation was directed by President N. Eldon Tanner of the First Presidency (See complete story on Page 48.

From the April, 1967 Millennial Star



President Plumbley
Manchester Stake President

Monday May 27, 1968

I managed to go to Wythenshawe to district meeting. Then I went to the hospital and the stitches were taken out from my toes. Ouch! The bandages have to stay on another week. My word! I'm fed up with doing nothing. I came to England to work, not to lollygag around recuperating from something that should have been taken care of in the States. I don't like being couped up here. We had solid teaching appointments that we can't meet. Everything has turned against our work here. First me losing the tracting record, then my toes. If I had had the tracting record we would have baptized. We could have been preparing some people for the gospel if it hadn't been for me. It seems as though I'm a jinx. I want to work and preach, but what can I do? Nothing!!

Tuesday May 28, 1968

Here I am, sitting in jolly old England. What am I doing. Enjoying the weather, that's what. The weather is lovely. Warm breeze, no clouds, bright warm sunshine. Perfect weather for meeting people. Not me. I've got to stay home and rest my dainty little feet.

Wednesday May 29, 1968

Again, the weather has been perfect. Even better than yesterday. We watched the European Cup finals on television. Manchester United beat Benfica of Portugal 4 goals – 1 goal. It was exciting, but I'd rather be working. Tomorrow I go back to the hospital to have the bandages changed.

Thursday May 30, 1968

I had my bandages changed this morning at the hospital about 9:30. Elder Petersen suggested today that we have a member boy work with Elder Despain. His name is Graham Booth. He's 14 years old. School is on a two week holiday, so he's going to spend his vacation with us. He's very enthusiastic and he likes the work. Elder Despain and Graham went out and re-contacted some of our "people". There were a couple of pack-ins, but Graham enjoyed it.

Friday May 31, 1968

Graham and Elder Despain tracted morning and afternoon. They made some call backs. They took a tape recorder over to Mr. Orr's to play him a tape, but he's still on holiday. Graham almost ran into a truck. He's o.k., but was he scared.

Saturday June 1, 1968

It's hard to believe that this month has already started. Everything, every day, has seemed like just one big long weekend. I don't think I can stand much more of this laying around. Elder Despain and Graham took care of shopping and laundry. Graham was pretty tired so they stayed in tonight.

Sunday June 2, 1968

There were no meetings at the church in Urmston because the whole branch went on an outing for the weekend. We attended services in Wythenshawe. In the afternoon, Elder Petersen took us to see the “Whit Walks”. That ‘s where all the Catholic Church march in a big parade and show off their finest clothes. There were brass bands, dozens of ‘em, bag pipe bands, all playing very un-religious military music. The purpose of the “parade” was to witness they believe in Christ, but all it was, was a fashion show, no more or less. Zofia and Mrs. Lozinska marched with their Polish Church. Then we return to Wythenshaw for a spiritual development meeting. A few days ago, Elder Stuart’s father was accidently killed. We were all saddened. And we consoled him.



Note: now that I’ve learned more about the Whit Walks, I should have been kinder in my evaluation. It was actually quite a remarkable event. –Bronson, May 6, 2020.

Page 67

Monday June 3, 1968

For diversion day our district went to a park near Manchester Airport. The weather was beautiful. I read the Bible while everyone else played football (soccer) with a basketball. Elder Meacum and Elder Preston made some egg salad for us. It was very good. It was a great day. I really enjoyed getting outside. It did make me tired though.

Tuesday June 4, 1968

Elder Despain and Graham went looking for a Book of Mormon referral. I continued to study. Peter Monahan, an eleven year old, came over to see me. I told him a lot about the church and he ate it up. His parents are good people and, in fact, are encouraging him to investigate us, even though they're Catholic. So I gave him a Book of Mormon. He is a nice lad. He may be a bit young to comprehend the gospel, but he needs guidance in some direction or other. If we treat him right, when he grows older he may become a member. We'll wait and see. His mother is a chain smoker, she smokes 60 or 70 a day. For his own sake he needs the church. What a home environment!

Page 68

Wednesday June 5, 1968

Graham and Peter went to a teaching appointment which fell through. They came back about 11:00. Peter came over and we taught him a first discussion. He seemed to believe everything. We didn't commit him on baptism because of his age. Afterwards we went over to his house where his mother, Inga, made us sandwiches and gave us milk and cake. Yesterday Elders Preston and Meacum were both transferred out because of a shortage of Elders. So Elder Despain and Graham went on and taught a contact of theirs today. We showed Peter the Film "What Happened to the Church of Jesus Christ.". He enjoyed it very much.

Thursday June 6, 1968

I took Peter to M.I.A. and Peter enjoyed it. Meanwhile Elder Despain and Graham were teaching a golden contact of Meacum's and Preston's, a student nurse. She's really been prepared for the gospel. Her personal philosophy already corresponds with Mormon ideals. She's already living the Word of Wisdom. Susan Scott's her name. Susan was always a step ahead in the discussion; she was answering the questions before they were asked. She'll be baptized.



Elder Preston

Page 69

Friday June 7, 1968

Elder Despain, Graham Booth, and Peter Monahan all went to the Northingtondon Chapel for an open house. As soon as we got there, Elder Petersen took me over to Wythenshawe so I could play the piano for a baptismal service in case the scheduled pianist didn't turn up. Anyway, she did come, but I did play some interlude music for about 15 minutes after the baptism which we were waiting for everyone to change into dry clothes. The open house was good, what I saw of it.

Saturday June 8, 1968

Graham wasn't in the mood for working, so he took Peter to a M.I.A. sports festival at Wythenshawe Park. They enjoyed it. Everyone all over England has been saddened by the death of Robert Kennedy. Ever since it happened a few days ago, it's been the talk of the town. It affected us deeply. We stayed up late to watch the broadcast of the funeral, but the train was late so we went to bed. We would have stayed up, but it's going to be 3 or 4 hours late. I didn't have time to form an opinion one way or the other. He was a good man, though. Perhaps he will accept the gospel in the spirit world.

Page 70

Sunday Jun 9, 1968

It was back to teaching Sunday School lessons again. I attended all the meetings today. (Priesthood, Sunday School and Sacrament meetings). Graham brought Peter to Sunday School today. Peter really enjoyed himself. Margaret Barnes gave him his Sunday School lesson. He came to sacrament meeting also. We watch a replay of Senator Kennedy's funeral about 7:00. And about 8:00 Elder Petersen came and took Graham home.

Monday June 10, 1968

Today was a full diversion day, as if I needed to divert. We went and saw two movies. We saw a double feature "Bedazzled" and "Fireball". Then we went and saw "Camelot".

Tuesday June 11, 1968

We shopped and did some laundry. In the afternoon, we taught Susan Scott a third discussion. She was already living the "word". In fact her entire philosophy is Mormon. She has a strong testimony. We projected her for July 5. The rest of the day was dull.

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Wednesday June 12, 1968

Today was a day for doing practically nothing. The weather has been great, but until we're sure my toes are o.k., we won't be doing much. So, we didn't do much at all.

Thursday June 13, 1968

I began working again. For lunch we went over to sister Kerr's. Elder Hymus and Elder Jensen are the replacements for Elder Meacum and Elder Preston. Sister Kerr's legs and feet have begun swelling up and the doctor told her to stay off her feet. We took Peter to M.I.A. tonight, then went to meet a referral. We left a Book of Mormon, but no success. We saw Mrs. Truant for a few minutes, then picked up Peter at church and came home.



Ricky Hymus

Friday June 14, 1968

Finally, I did a full days work again. Boy, am I out of shape. At noon my bike had a flat tire and we had to walk back from our area (about a mile). In the afternoon, Elder Despain's bike had a flat and we had to walk back at dinner time. What a day, but it felt really good to get out again.

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Saturday June 15, 1968

Today as a very unusual day. We did our laundry and shopping and got home about 10:30 a.m. Just after we got home a Jehovah's witness came to the door. Mrs. Lozinska asked us if we wanted to talk to her since she wasn't interested. We said yes. She left at 1:15 p.m. and she hadn't been able to even make a dent in our "armor". In fact, she has a list of about 30 scriptures plus by combination reference is calling back next Wednesday. Their doctrines sure are an abomination.

Sunday June 16, 1968

I taught Sunday School class today. It seems like I've taught them just about everything I can. It's up to somebody else to start teaching them what they know. I've just run out of ideas. For the first time since I came, I can say I'm ready to leave. I've really enjoyed working here and I love the people. It's just that doesn't seem like there's much more to say or do. After 5 months I think I've run out of ideas. I know I haven't really, it just seems like it.

Page 73

Monday June 17, 1968

Well, my transfer came today. It almost relieves me to be leaving,. But I so much wanted to be successful here, and wasn't. It saddens me to be leaving without making, or being blessed with success in this area. For diversion day we played the Rochdale district in some basketball. (We won; but I didn't play). Our district also played a group of 12 year old kids in a game of soccer. They won, 6-0. It was a barrel of fun.

Tuesday June 18, 1968

Today's my last full day in Urmston. This afternoon we taught Mrs. Truant a 1st discussion. She's golden. She'll be baptized if her husband will let her. Peter Monahan bought me a going away present – a box of sweets (candy). We visited the Charnocks for a couple of hours tonight.

Wednesday June 19, 1968

I got up at 6:00, finished packing, and at breakfast at 7:00. I said good by to everyone and left in a taxi at 7:30. I left Manchester at 8:30 and arrived in Cleethorpes at 12:30. I think I'll like it here.

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Thursday June 20, 1968

The District Leader, Elder Skidmore, comes from Walnut Creek. It's quite a coincidence. He came over today and I went tracting with him until noon. It was a good experience.



Elder Skidmore

Friday June 21, 1968

We tracted this morning and got caught in a cloudburst. The area is a lot cleaner than Manchester. There's no smog. We looked up the Mayor of Cleethorpes and has agreed to come to a charity show Elder Wimmer is organizing. He is also chairman of the charity this program is going to be for. We taught a 5th fellowshipping discussion to the Whartons (There are two Wharton families, two brothers & their wives). They seem to be real solid.



Elder Warren Wimmer



Elder Warren Wimmer

Saturday June 22, 1968

We tracted, but couldn't teach anybody. Our landlady, Sister Dawe is a pretty good cook, I think. We taught the Wharton's another fellowshipping discussion. I really enjoyed it. It's difficult to write about all my impressions of this place but everyone is friendly and I believe the Lord is going to bless this area. I sure hope so.

Page 75

Sunday June 23, 1968

District Conference was today. I recorded it all. The branch choir here sang "Joseph the Seer". They recruited me to sing tenor. It was o.k. We had lunch at Sister Knudson's. We prayed that someone would come to Sacrament Meeting who would want the gospel. After Sacrament meeting a man came up to me and said he'd be inactive for 8 years and wanted to be re-activated and that his wife was a non-Mormon but was interested in the church. They live in the other elder's area, but they're an answer to prayer.

Monday June 24, 1968

Today was a work day. Elder Wimmer went to see the doctor about his hay fever. This evening we went to President Gilmore's about 7:30 to teach a fellowshipping discussion, but the lady never showed up.

Tuesday June 25, 1968

Today tracting, we met a man who about a B.O.M., who seemed real sincere, but he's going to sea for a while, tomorrow. At M.I.A., we taught two member girls a 4th discussion. Thought they're members, they need to be converted. They have trouble with the Word of Wisdom. It's too bad.

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Wednesday June 26, 1968

I went to the dentist today. I've got four cavities. He filled the worst one and said he'd do the rest in September. Elder Wimmer and I taught Letty a 4th discussion. Elder Skidmore, the D.L., picked us up about 8:30 tonight and took us, and Elder Halford and Elder Haywood, to Scunthorpe in order to stay overnight for a zone conference in Leeds tomorrow. His landlady was on vacation and wasn't supposed to be home until Friday. He started talking fast and said it was o.k.

Thursday June 27, 1968

We had a good zone conference. The mission staff held a contest to choose best district and best team. Our district won both prizes. We got a large chocolate cake baked by Sister Robison and big box of cookies baked by her.

Friday June 28, 1968

It rained until noon. We rented a trumpet for me in case I have to play at the charity concert. The rest of the day, we tracted. Nothing special happened.

Page 77

Saturday June 29, 1968

We sold a B.O.M. to a sailor and found another lady that might turn out to be good. Tracting is about the same. We went over to President Gilmore's the branch President.

Sunday June 30, 1968

The branch members here are pretty good, though it's hard to tell with one meeting. I'm sure I'll like them. A man and his wife who immigrated from Grimsby about 15 years ago and went to Stockton, California, returned on a week's visit. He was invited, along with his wife, to say a few words. They did. He only made one mistake. He urged all the young people to go to America.

Monday July 1, 1968

For our full day Diversion Day, we went with the Hull District to Wythensea (Withernsea), another resort town. The Hull district has two lady missionaries and they made up a big batch of fried chicken, potato salad, and root beer. Then we held a spiritual development meeting on the beach. Afterwards we played American football for a couple of hours.

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Tuesday July 2, 1968

This morning we tracted. This afternoon we talked to the Mayor Cleethorpes, Mayor Douglas Leam, to ask his support for our charity show. He'll help us. We also had a Book of Mormon study class with Letty Mae. At M.I.A. tonight we taught Rosemary Bushell a 5th discussion. She's a 16 year old member girl with a few problems.

Wednesday July 3, 1968

We just gave Sister May (Letty) a 5th discussion. She thought it was remarkable. She believes it too. My bicycle arrived today and we rode bikes looking for referrals, but had no success.



Flixton Area – one area where we looked for referrals



Bronson at the St. Michael's church in Flixton



1968 Bronson

Thursday July 4, 1968

Today in tracting we found a very confirmed atheist who wasn't interested. We managed to talk to him for half an hour before he invited us into his house. Elder Wimmer told him about the charity show and he said he knew a perfect compere magician comedian. So immediately, he took us...

...in his car to Tab Hunter's house. His stage name is Peter DeWint. He says he'll do it. Then this man gave us a ride home. Tonight, Sister K. Knudson, Brother Derek Dawe, Elder Wimmer, and I had a short planning conference. We finished a fast today that we began yesterday with Letty. The fast for the purpose of softening up his attitude toward us. This was the first time Letty's fasted, but she made it all of the way through.



Karen Knudson

Friday July 5, 1968

We tracted and tracted, but no success. We also went over to Brother and Sister Wharton's to pick up the posters for our advertising campaign, but the man who was supposed to deliver them didn't show up.

Saturday July 6, 1968

There are five Frenchmen boarding here at the Dawe's. They made us some delicious rabbit. It was delicious. It's like having our own private French Chef. That's getting pretty posh if you ask me. We had no visible success tracting today.

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Sunday July 7, 1968

After Fast and Testimony meeting, we went over to sister Knudson's for lunch, along with Elder Halford and Elder Haywood. It was delicious. Boy, was I stuffed. At 6:00 the branch held a special primary program. I had to play piano for them. Then we played a tape called "Tithing" by Ernest L. Wilkinson, President of B.Y.U. It was a great tape. Everyone liked it.

Monday July 8, 1968

For Diversion Day we went bowling at the Cleethorpes Alley. It was a lot of fun. This Wednesday is Elder McRae's 21st birthday, so we bought him a German beer steiner and gave him a cake. We tried to find out where the posters for our advertising campaign are, but no luck.

Tuesday July 9, 1968

Tracting today, we talked to a policeman. I think he knows it's true, but he's afraid of something. At M.I.A. we taught a 3rd discussion to a member girl. Her testimony is being built up. Having the discussions is good for her.

Wednesday July 10, 1968

It rained all day today. So, we tracted along and made some appointments for tomorrow. We went over to Mr. and Mrs. Morely's and sold them tickets for the concert. They're real nice people, but he isn't bothered about religion very much. They belong to the Salvation Army. We tried to get some business men to donate to our charity by running an advertisement in the paper, but they wouldn't do it.

Thursday July 11, 1968

It rained and the wind blew like a cyclone, until about 11:00. Then it stopped and began to clear up, although it was windy. We were packed in on our appointments. Each of us bought a pound of cherries today and ate them. We also locked ourselves out of the house for 45 minutes this afternoon. We finally "broke in". It sure made Elder Wimmer mad. Elder Wimmer had to stick a ten foot long pole through the letter box and unlatch the window on the opposite site of the room. Then I climbed in and opened the door from the inside. We had bought some baker hot bread for lunch, but by the time we got in it was cold. Things could be worse. At least we can feast on the warmth of the gospel.



July 1968. Bronson at the Dawe's house.



July 1968. Bronson and Peter Dawe



Friday July 12, 1968

During the storm yesterday, a whale was washed up on the beach and died. Also, about ¼ mile from here, a world war II mine was washed up on shore. A demolition squad exploded it. Our posters for the Charity Concert were terrible; they were too small. And, instead of making it neatly, he just photographed the rough draft and made the posters from that. We refused to take them. If we don't get some posters quick, the concert is in trouble.

Saturday July 13, 1968

The branch members were on an outing to Normandy Park at Scunthorpe today. Elder Wimmer and I went. So did Elder Halford and Elder Haywood. We had a lot of fun. Just as the food was being set out, about 3:30, there was a cloud burst. It lasted for an hour. We all got soaked, but spirits remained high. We all stood under a huge tree for an hour. We left of the bus about 4:30. Peter Dewint, the semi-professional compere, agree to be our compere. He's a very talented man, also very humble. Without him the concert would suffer. I think the Lord has blessed us with contacting him.

Page 83

Sunday July 14, 1968

There's a boy, about 16, named Collin who became interested in church at M.I.A. last Tuesday so he came to church. He also came to sacrament meeting. I think he believes it's true. I gave a talk in sacrament meeting on self-control and reverence. Elder Haywood gave a talk on obedience.

Monday July 15, 1968

We were going to Scunthorpe, but we missed the train and it was raining cats and dogs today anyway. So we went and flicked out. We saw "Far From the Madding Crowd". We did some referral work tonight, but no success.

Tuesday July 16, 1968

Tracting today we met a lady who was a landlady for 3 years for the elders. We talked to her for an hour. She's not a Mormon, but she tried to set up an appointment with the people she's visiting for us to show a film. No success. She showed us pictures of all the elders she had stay with her.

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Wednesday July 17, 1968

Elder Wimmer took a driving lesson this morning. Tomorrow he's going to take his test for a drivers license. We previewed some of the talent we're going to have on our show. Some of it was very good, but some will have to go. We had lunch today with the lady we met yesterday.

Books read (and date completed) for the first six months of my mission:

Book Of Mormon Key to Conversion – March 15, 1968

The Great Apostasy – April 11, 1968

Truth Restored April 11, 1968

The Kingship of Self-Control – April 14, 1968

Marvelous Work and a Wonder April 24, 1968

Book of Mormon – April 30, 1968

The House of the Lord – May 3, 1968

Doctrine and Covenants – May 15, 1968

Pearl of Great Price – May 20, 1968

Articles of Faith – June 4, 1968

A New Witness for Christ in America - June 14, 1968

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Thursday July 18, 1968

Today was a busy day. Elder Wimmer took his driving test and passed it. Letty said her husband had taken the Book of Mormon out to sea with him. He'll probably be gone for about 8 or 9 weeks. We went over to the Wharton's for a few minutes tonight to pick up a book Elder Wimmer had left there.

Friday July 19, 1968

Elder Skidmore and Elder McRae worked with us today. I drove the car to the church. We looked for somebody with a key to the church so we could hang a backdrop on the stage for the variety show. But we couldn't find anybody with a key.



Elders Skidmore and McRae. Dressed in their variety show costumes.

Saturday July 20, 1968

We arrange this morning for some of our talent for the show and also picked up our posters for advertising. We spent the afternoon placing some of them (there were 43). The town buses are threatening to go on strike. If they do, it might ruin our show because no one could get there. A couple of Frenchmen who board here had a car accident. One has face lacerations. The other is o.k.

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Sunday July 21, 1968

Besides Sunday School and Sacrament meeting, not much happened. I took the Book of Mormon study class after Sacrament meeting. It was successful.

Monday July 22, 1968

We distributed more posters today and washed some laundry. Tonight, we gave a lad named Tony a 1st discussion. He gave us real good answers, but he's have a hard time even accepting God. Sister Knudsen typed up post cards to mail to all the performers to remind them of the concert.

Tuesday July 23, 1968

We went looking up call backs, but no luck. We picked up a chocolate cake sister Knudson baked for our celebration tomorrow. We tracted in the afternoon, then before going home we bought enough fruit to make a good fruit salad. Tonight we went to the church to try to make a new tape of "The Trial of the Stick of Joseph". Elder Skidmore brought the backdrops for the stage.

Wednesday July 24, 1968

Elder Skidmore and Elder McRae slept overnight with us. We all got up at 5:20 and left here at 6:20. Then we went to Grimsby, picked up Elder Halford and Elder Haywood, and took the 7:15 ferry from New Holland to Hull. We took a bus from Hull to Bridlington, a resort town. Two entire zones were down there, including the mission home staff, to celebrate the 24th of July. In the morning everyone played football on the beach. In the afternoon, Elder Halford and I went golfing. The whole day was really enjoyable.

Thursday July 25, 1968

We tracted in the morning and looked up some referrals in the afternoon. In the evening, Chris Wright came over to go teaching with us but we got packed in. President Gilmore told us about some problems we'll have in connection with the concert. We have to fireproof the curtains, make exit signs and bind the chairs together with wood. Boy, is next week going to be busy. Putting on this concert may be the means of bringing a few people into the church, or at least of acting as a means of giving the townspeople a better image of Mormons are.



Chris Wright

Friday July 26, 1988

Tonight we went over to President and Sister Jenner's for an investigator fireside. We played the film strip "What Happened to the Church of Jesus Christ" and the talk "Profile of a Prophet" by Hugh B. Brown. Actually, about 12 members came and one investigator came. It was a good evening. On the way home, Elder Wimmer lost one of his contact lenses on the bus.



Saturday July 27, 1988

We made a "sandwich" sign to advertise our concert. I was the one who had to carry it down Freeman street. It was a lot of fun. I sure was able to observe a lot of things about how people react to unusual people. I wore sunglasses and a crazy straw hat. We're going to do it some more next week. Sister Karen Knudson drew the sign for us. It says "Looking for Some Fun?" and the back advertises the concert. I felt like everyone was watching me. At one point, two girls, about 16, each grabbed an elbow as I walked across the street. Elder McRae nearly died laughing. It was funny.

Page 89

Sunday July 28, 1968

Dave Manners, a 15 year old neighbor of SHighister Knudson's came to Sunday school and Sacrament meeting and played the piano for us. He's really great to do it. We'll just try and fellowship him right now.

Monday July 29, 1968

Diversion Day. We went to the chapel at 8:30 this morning and cleaned the place up. We worked on it until noon. Then we had a Chinese lunch and the district went to Louth to see an old Cathedral there. We had rehearsals for the concert on Friday. It went good.

Tuesday July 30, 1968

We looked up some referrals and got packed in. Then we helped prepare the chapel for Friday night. The chapel is really looking good. Dave Manners is going to play prelude music before the show. Dave is very shy but is also a terrific piano player. Everyone is grateful he decided to play piano for us.

Page 90

Wednesday July 31, 1968

We looked for some new digs this morning, and finally found some. They'll cost us only about 5 shillings more a week. It's a real good family we'll be moving in with. We put some final touches on the auditorium for Friday's concert. (Putting up exit signs, etc.). This show has got to be successful.

Thursday August 1, 1968

We had a rehearsal tonight. It'll be a good show. I'm looking forward to tomorrow. In fact, I'll be glad when it's over. By the way, we had to fire proof the stage curtains in order to pass fire inspection. So, we soaked them in a special borax solution in the baptismal font. When they dried, they had shrunk six inches. They look terribly funny on the stage. Everyone's ankles can be seen from the audience. One thing about this show. It will give us an opportunity to show people what Mormons do and are interested in. Some people think all we do is missionary work. Well, we also love people and love helping them. Perhaps through this show many barriers of misunderstanding will be brought down

Friday August 2, 1968

The first performance of our show was tonight. There were between 80 and 100 people there. We count it as a success. The talent show was great. The Mayor of Cleethorpes (Douglas Leam), who is also the president of the Lindsey Society for the Physically Handicapped, the charity the concert is for, gave a short speech thanking us. We're real happy. Elder McRae phone his parents, who live in California. He was happy.



Local magician, Unami performed at the talent show.



Some of the cast of the talent show.



The STARS of the show Elder Skidmore and Elder McRae

Saturday August 3, 1968

We moved from Sister Dawe today to our new digs. The people, the Salisbury's, are real nice. They'll be good to live with. They have a son 13 years old and a grandson 1 yr. old. The second night of the concert was successful. Only about 70-80 people came. Our total intake was 28 pounds (about \$500 in 2020 dollars).



Elder Larsen with Mrs. Salisbury and her son



Mr. Salisbury

Sunday August 4, 1968

After church today, we had a terrific lunch at sister Knudson's. Then tonight we had a Book of Mormon study class. We played a couple of tapes, which were very good.

Monday August 5, 1968

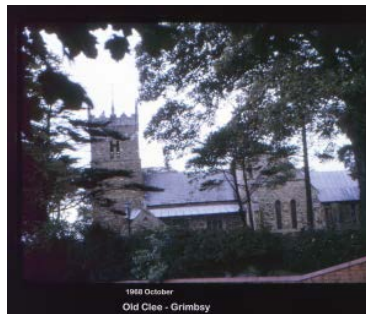
We went to Scunthorpe today for a district meeting and personal interviews with President Robison. Elder Wimmer got transferred to Manchester. He'll be leaving tomorrow. He's going to work with the D.L.

Tuesday August 6, 1968

Elder Wimmer left on a bus to Manchester at 8:30 this morning. My new companion, Elder Larsen, didn't get here until 7:30 because of a train breakdown. After he came, we went and saw Letty for a while. She likes him. So do I. We should work as a good team.

Wednesday August 7, 1968

Elder Larsen and I went tracting today. He's a real good worker and has a strong testimony and faith. We visited an old C. Of. E. today. It is 1000 years old. While we were inside, he sold a B.O.M. to the cleaning woman and gained an appointment with her. When he sold it to her, we were all standing next to the "Baptismal Font". The name of the church is "Old Clee".



Old Clee in Grimsby

Thursday August 8, 1968

We met some good people today, but we met one who wasn't quite so good. A lass about 20 yrs. Old, who was home alone, about 9:00 tonight tried to entice us into her house. She said she wanted to hear our message, but we could tell by her clothing, the look in her eye, and the way she talked, she wasn't thinking about the gospel. We made some phony excuses and left very quickly.

Friday August 9, 1968

This morning we surveyed on St. Peters Avenue. This afternoon we tracted. We taped about 15 minutes worth of door approaches tonight. About 7:30 we called by on Mr. and Mrs. Walker. They're a real good family, but a bit confused. They've been taking lessons from the Jehovah Witnesses.

Saturday August 10, 1968

We met some good people tracting this morning. This afternoon we surveyed on Freeman street and got 6 or 7 referrals. We found a good interested family tracting tonight.

Sunday August 11, 1968

Steve, the Salisbury's son, went to Sunday School with us today. He also came to Sacrament Service. We were packed in this afternoon on a teaching appointment. Elder Larsen and Elder Halford were the speakers at Sacrament meeting tonight.



Steve Salisbury



Elder David Larsen

Monday August 12, 1968

Diversion Day. We didn't do so much today. We went down to the "front" in Cleethorpes and viewed all the games and money making devices. It wasn't very exciting. Then we went and played golf on a chip 'n putt golf course.



"The Front" in Cleethorpes



"The Front" in Cleethorpes

Tuesday August 13, 1968

Today was a very unusual day. First of all we contacted two B.O.M. referrals. Then this afternoon we went to teach a Mr. Walker and his wife a 1st discussion. But he tape recorded all of it. The spirit wasn't strong there, but it was an unusual experience. He might have had an ulterior motive, but it's hard to tell. He's a little on the intellectual (logical), instead of spiritual, side.

Wednesday August 4, 1968

The highlight of today was teaching Mr. Bird a 1st discussion. He accepted Joseph Smith and the Restoration. The only thing he wasn't sure of was that all other churches were false. But we already introduced him to the Book of Mormon and he's going to try and read it all in the next three weeks.

Thursday August 5, 1968

We did referral work this morning and sold three Book of Mormons. We saw Letty yesterday afternoon about 3:30. She had already broken the fast we started yesterday. She was worried that she hadn't faster 24 hours. We told her not to worry. Tonight we presented the Mayor of Cleethorpes with a 20-pound check from the Charity Concert plus a copy of Meet the Mormons. The Mayor was very impressed with it. The presentation was in the town hall. There was a photographer there so we all got our picture in the paper. I think this concert may help to convince others what kind of people we are.

Note: 20 pounds is equal to about \$350 - \$400 in 2020 currency.



Photo taken on August 16, 1968 in the Mayor's Parlour



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Friday August 6, 1968

This afternoon a lad about 18 or 19 invited us over to his house for a chat. Actually he was a Trinity Nazarene and he wanted us to leave our "silly religion". We said no. We stayed for an hour and a half. Finally we accepted an invitation to go to his church on September 1st if he'd come to ours. It's been raining nearly all week.

Saturday August 17, 1968

Today marks 7 months in the field. Time is going by too quickly. We sold 12 B.O.M's this week. Nothing special happened, except Letty's husband came home from sea after a 5 week trip (his shortest ever. The fish were top quality, too). There just doesn't seem to be enough time to do everything. I'm learning the value of organizing one's time and preparing for opportunities. Elder Larsen keeps saying "Fail to prepare and prepare to fail". I know that is true. I need to become better organized and prepared. I personally think being on a mission is great preparation for life.

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Sunday August 18, 1968

We took Steve to Sunday School and Sacrament meetings today. He enjoys going to church. Tonight we went over to Mr. Walkers and made a copy of the discussions he recorded. We also had a good discussion with him.

Monday August 19, 1968

Today was a free D-Day. So we went to Sister Dawe's and recorded some tabernacle choir music. But, she has a 4-track recorder and I recorded the music on the wrong tracks. So, I'll have to do it over again.

Tuesday August 20, 1968

We found a real good couple out in Humberston. They're young and interested in the gospel. We tracted and looked up referrals, but didn't meet with anymore success.

Wednesday August 21, 1968

We tracted today and sold a few Books of Mormon, but as far as I can see we haven't met with any real success, yet. But we will.

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Thursday August 22, 1968

Elder Skidmore came over today and worked with us. Elder Witman worked with Elder Larsen and Elder Skidmore worked with me. Skidmore (Skid the Kid) has 10 days left on his mission.. We drove to Louth, about 20 miles away, and delivered a couple of free B.O.M's. Elder Larsen and I tracted in the afternoon. This evening we taught a first discussion to that couple out in Humberston. It was a dud.

Friday August 23, 1968

The best part of today was teaching Mr. and Mrs. Euesden. Chris Wright went with us. Actually we didn't teach them a discussion, but she has already read 50 pages of the Book of Mormon and now he is interested. The second appointment we had was with a young lad about 18 or 19 yrs. Old. He answered the discussion just great. He said he'd come to church on Sunday. Cliff likes Chris; they should along together just great.

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Saturday August 24, 1968

Today we mainly tracted. The weather was stifling hot. The humidity must have been about 100%. We found some good people from a B.O.M. referral. We may be able to teach them.

Sunday August 25, 1968

Clifford Knox came to Sunday School this morning. He seemed to be very impressed. He said he'd come next week. He's got parent trouble, though.

Monday August 26, 1968

Today was Diversion Day. Elder Larsen and I went over to Sister Dawe's for a while. Then we had a district meeting at the other Elders digs in Grimsby. Then Elder Skidmore took us out to Humberston and we went horseback riding. Boy, am I sore. Never again. It's too rough when you're not in condition.

Tuesday August 27, 1968

We were packed in again so all we could do today was tract. We tracted near a C. of E. Church called "Old Clee". The closer to it we got, the more close minded and antagonistic the people became. They're as bigoted as the Catholics.



Old Clee



Old Clee

Wednesday August 28, 1968

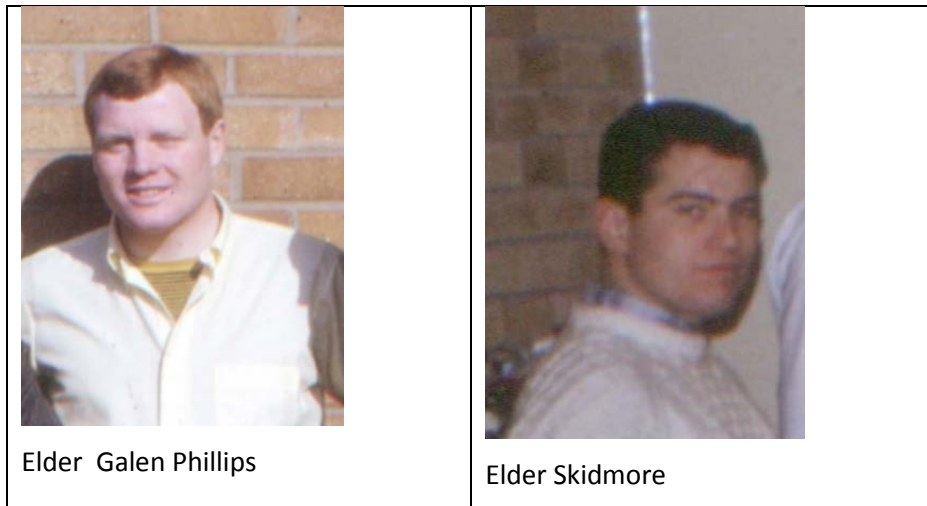
Tonight before we left to go tracting, a police woman came to our house. She was looking for Elders Halford and Phillips. Somebody broke into the house of one of the Salisbury's friends. She was looking for the elders to make sure that they were actually in that area, and not just an imposter posing as one of us in order to "case" the house. She talked to us a few minutes and left. She was satisfied that the Elders were not involved, though they had been in that area. We didn't find much success tonight, but we're happy. That's the thing that matters most. I feel that though his work is hard, it is very worth while doing. It's very hard to talk to prejudicial people all day, but our testimonies keep us going.

Thursday August 29, 1968

Today was a real classic day in tracting. We tracted one long street today and must have met every kind of person one can meet. The first door we knocked on, a man 80 yrs. Old and stone drunk answered. Then we met a large variety of antagonists and good people. We sold some B.O.M's and gained some returned appointments. One of the last people we talked to was a lady about 50 yrs. Old. She said she was a student of comparative religion and that her great grandfather was a great evangelical minister who sailed to America in 1842 to conduct a large anti-mormon crusade. He died at sea and was buried at sea before he reached America. She wants to follow in his footsteps. I hope she does.

Friday August 30, 1968

The main event of today was going to the chapel to watch Elders Halford and Phillips baptize 4 people and Elder Skidmore baptize one. Elder Skidmore goes home on Tuesday. He's had a good mission. I hope I can fill a good mission also.



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Saturday August 31, 1968

Referral work has begun to pay off. It seems like we have been blessed with a good young family. The wife has been reading the Book of Mormon and is almost through 2nd Nephi. They said they're try to come to church tomorrow. I hope they do. Clifford Knox's parents are against him but we're hoping to see him tomorrow.

Sunday September 1, 1968

Tonight was quite eventful. We attended Trinity Nazarene Service. Afterwards everyone was real friendly. They invited us to go to a Fisherman's Mission Hall. Afterwards everyone seemed to converge on all three of us (Chris Wright went with us). Each of them seemed to get about 1/3 of them. I got tangled up with two of their pastors. Boy was I scared. But after I showed them a few scriptures they left (very quickly). We talked to the young people there until about 11:00. When we got home, we found out the parents of Clifford Knox had been over here to warn...

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...us to stay away from him. (Cliff's nearly 20.) They waited for us most of the evening, but we were late getting home. It was quite an evening.

Monday September 2, 1968

For Diversion Day we went to Sister Dawe's and I recorded some of her Tabernacle Choice music, about 3 hours worth. Then we went to the show. Tonight Christ Wright went with us to teach Mr. & Mrs. Euesden a 1st discussion. She's already ready 160 pages in the Book of Mormon. If she can gain a faith in God, she'll be converted. So will he.

Tuesday September 3, 1968

We tracted all afternoon with Chris Wright. We met a man who was baptized in 1885. We played Mr. Walker "Profile of A Prophet". He's going to read the B.O.M. – at last. After talking to a man like Mr. Walker, I can appreciate the meaning of real spirituality and intellectual spirituality now. Mrs. Walker's faith & spirituality is artificial & shallow. I'm thankful I'm in a church where spirituality is deep & meaningful.

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Wednesday September 4, 1968

Tracting this morning we found a family who moved in about 3 weeks ago. The wife has always been L.D.S., but the rest of them haven't. The two daughters, Wendy (10 yrs.) and Beverly (16 yrs.) want to know about the church. I think Mr. Franklin is interested too. However, he's in the Air Force and is leaving for six months. We went to Mr. Bird's tonight and played him "Profile of A Prophet". He's read about 1/3 of the Book of Mormon. He's troubled about some things, but is continuing his reading.

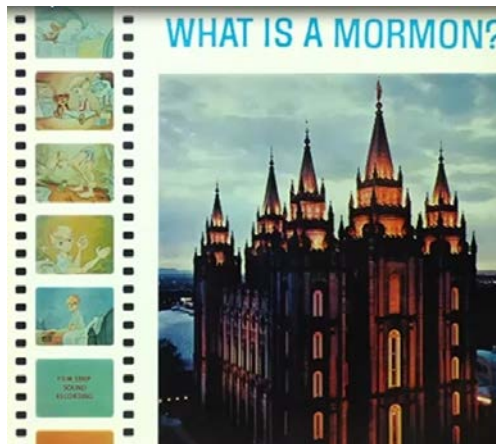


Thursday September 5, 1968

Our new District Leader came over today. His name is Elder Dixon. He's been out about 19 months. Elder Larsen and I sent to Humberston and taught a Jewish lady a 1st discussion. It seemed pretty successful. We were packed in on the rest of our appointments today. We then had to tract. Tracting is hard work sometimes, but it never hurt anyone to work hard. We see every day the lives people live without the church and my heart goes out to them. What a better place this would be if people would accept the gospel.

Friday September 6, 1968

We taught brother & sister Euesden a 2nd discussion and showed them the film "What is A Mormon". They enjoyed both. Mrs. Euesden said he would begin reading the Book of Mormon. Christ Wright went with us. He sure helps a lot in the discussions. I'm glad he went with us.



Saturday September 7, 1968

We tracted today and looked up referrals, without much success. However, we did meet a member (Barry) and wife down in Humberston. He's a policeman. Yesterday he caught Elder Larsen running a stop light. He had over to his house for a drink. This afternoon we had tea at Sister Dawe's. She cooked pizza. It was pretty good. Good news – In August, the North British Mission baptized 103 people. They said the Mission could never baptize 100 in a single month, but we did and everyone is really grateful for it. The Lord has really blessed us a lot.

Sunday September 8, 1968

We took Steve Salisbury to Sunday School and Sacrament meetings. A part member family came to church today, the Franklins. Sister Franklin is a member but her daughters and husband are not. We hope to baptize the rest of them. Mr. Green, who was baptized in 1886 came to Sacrament meeting tonight. I gave a small talk on faith.

Monday September 9, 1968

Today was a full work day. We tracted in the morning. This afternoon Elder Dixon, our new District Leader, came over and worked with us. I went working with his companion, Elder Whitman. We visited all the people we're teaching tonight. Someone stole the light off of Elder Larsen's bicycle.

Tuesday September 10, 1968

We spent the day tracting. Tonight we went over to Sister May's and played her the tape "Miracles" by Matthew Cowley. Her sister, Lynn, was there also. They both really enjoyed it.

Wednesday September 11, 1968

We went to Humberston and taught Mr. Meaney as 1st discussion. She's reading the Book of Mormon. If she'll humble herself and pray, she'll eventually accept it. We were packed in, again, tonight.

Thursday September 12, 1968

We were up at 5:00 today, but we didn't leave until 6:30 because Elder Dixon was late. We were all about a half hour late to Zone Conference. Spencer W. Kimball was the main speaker. It was tremendous just to be there. The spirit was wonderful. After Zone Conference was over, we left Leeds and went to Beverley to attend a meeting for all the members of the church. There must have been 500 or 600 people there. We rode with members on a bus back home. We got home at 1:00 a.m. What a day.

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Friday September 13, 1968

We had a real good call back today. There's a very sincere lady in Humberston who we taught a 1st discussion today. She's going to read the B.O.M. We taught brother & sister Euesden a 3rd discussion tonight. Sister Euesden said she'd try, but brother Euesden refused. He likes his pint of beer too much. It was humbling to try and convince him, but I don't think we convinced him. However, he may still come around.

Saturday September 14, 1968

I took a driving lesson this morning. We went to the Franklins this afternoon and taught them a 2nd discussion. It took us 3 hours, but they understand now, I hope. Their baptismal date is October 4th.

Sunday September 15, 1968

The Franklins came to church today. Mr. Franklin came home for an unexpected visit and came to Sacrament meeting. We were happy to see them there. I took charge of the Book of Mormon Study class tonight.

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Monday September 16, 1968

We went down to Cleethorpes today and window shopped. Then we went to Sister Dawe's for a district meeting. It rained all day. Tonight we visited Mrs. Walker and Mrs. Smith. We're going to go back and see them.

Tuesday September 17, 1968

I went to the dentists and had some fillings put in. I took a driving lesson today. We tracted in the afternoon. Tonight we went over to the Franklins and gave them a 2nd discussion and showed them "What is a Mormon". It was real successful. We'll baptize Wendy and Beverley next month.

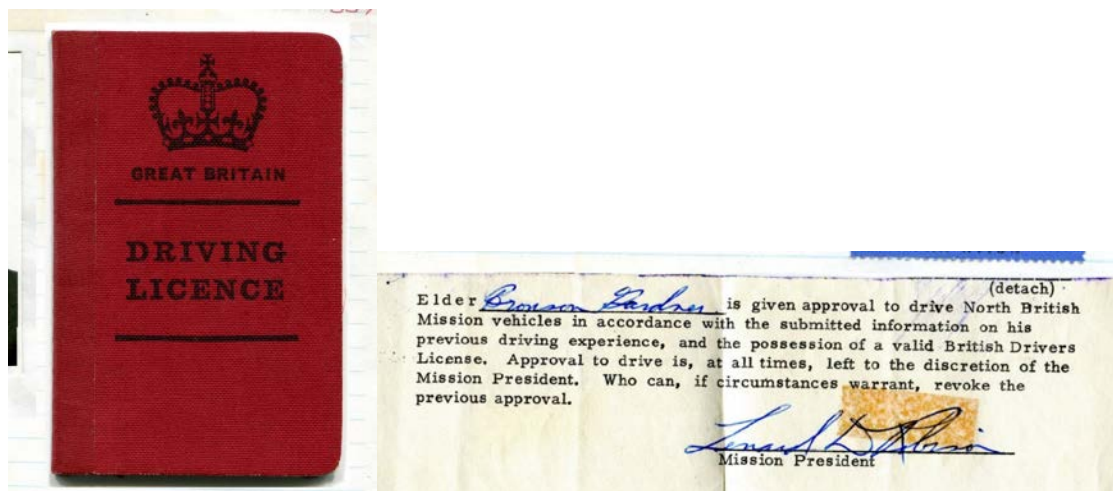
Wednesday September 18, 1968

I had another driving lesson today. Tonight we went to Sister May's and had a real good discussion on the Book of Mormon and the Marvelous Work and a Wonder. She's in real tune with the spirit. Her testimony has grown greatly by reading the Book of Mormon. She often tells us new things she's learned and how the BOM portrays everyday life. She knows it's true. So do I.

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Thursday September 19, 1968

I took my driving test today. Was I thankful! I needed God's help, but now I've got a license. We went to Mrs. Bird's tonight and gave him a second discussion. It took us two hours. He's got one of the strongest minds I've chanced to meet. He doesn't have as many doubts now as he did. He's coming along.



Friday September 20, 1968

It's been raining cats and dogs all day. We taught Mrs. Ellam a 2nd discussion today. She's reading the Book of Mormon. I think she's coming along. We also taught brother & sister Euesden a 4th discussion tonight. They understand real well. Sister Euesden is gaining a testimony of the Book of Mormon. Christ Wright was there also to help us out. It was a good evening.

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Saturday September 21, 1968

We went over to the Franklins today and taught them a 3rd discussion. They really enjoyed it. They also understand the Word of Wisdom now.

Sunday September 22, 1968

No investigators showed up to Sunday School this morning. This afternoon we taught the Franklins a 4th discussion. It helped them a lot. Even Wendy can understand faith now. Afterwards, they gave us a snack and we went to Sacrament meeting. Brother & Sister Euesden also came to Sacrament Meeting. They were very impressed with the services and the chapel.

Monday September 23, 1968

This morning we wrote letters and picked up our suits from the cleaners. Then, as a district, we all went bowling. Then it was over to Sister Dawe's to clean up her garden and have tea. Tonight we showed sister May "Mormons in the British Isles". And studied the B.O.M. more.

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Tuesday September 24, 1968

I went to the dentists this morning and had 3 more fillings put in. He took care of my tooth trouble (For six months, anyway.) We tracted all day.

Wednesday September 25, 1968

We tracted this morning. Then we spent most of the afternoon putting the final touches on a special anti-J.W. lesson for one of our investigators, Mr. Walker. He's not sure about who to follow, them or us. Tonight we went to the Franklins and showed them the film "Mormons in the British Isles". They enjoyed it very much. Mrs. Smith packed us in tonight.

Thursday September 26, 1968

Tonight we went to the Euesdens. Instead of giving them a 5th discussion, we gave them and two of their friends, Kevin and Bonita, the film "Mormons in the British Isles" and a 1st discussion. They liked them both. Just after the discussion was over, sister Karen

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Knudsen came by for an unexpected visit, but she timed it beautifully. We're grateful to the Lord for our wonderful blessings.

Friday September 27, 1968

What a wasted night. We went to Mr. Walkers house tonight. We were prepared to disprove the Jehova Witness church. He had a "friend" of his come over and sit in our discussion (we presented a 2nd discussion). The rest of the evening was spent in a "bash" with his friend. We had the upper hand all evening (from 8:00 – 11:00) but he was dogmatic. He wouldn't yield, not even when we showed him where he was in opposition to scripture. It seemed too futile.

Saturday September 28, 1968

The best part of today was teaching the Franklins a 5th discussion. It was marvelous to see their eyes light up more and more as we explained the gospel to them. Beverly has read about 300 pages of the Book of Mormon. Sister Franklin says she's learned more about the church in 6 weeks than she had in 32 years.

Sunday September 29, 1968

Today we went to Scunthorpe to attend a district conference. The President of the London Temple as there. He spoke on the spur of the moment, but everyone was captivated. It was an experience to list to him. Everybody enjoyed the conference.



Douglas C. McKown and his wife, President of the London Temple

Monday September 30, 1968

For "Preparation Day" we tried to play baseball on the beach, but it rained. So we stayed at sister Dawe's and listened to music and had district interviews. Tonight we taught Mr. & Mrs. Brown a 1st discussion. They're good people. The evening was a great success.

Tuesday October 1, 1968

Today we tracted again. Tonight we gave Letty a "responsibility to be baptized" lesson. We played her two tapes. The first was "The Earth's Sabbath" by Serling W. Still. The second was "It All Adds Up" by Richard L. Evans. Her husband will be home in a couple of weeks. We may be able to baptize her.

Wednesday October 2, 1968

Elder Larsen really came down with the flu this morning. He stayed in bed all day. Elder Dixon and Elder Rawlings worked with us tonight. Elder Dixon and I went and taught the Euesdens a 5th discussion. Elder Rawlings stayed in with Elder Larsen. Chris Wright was also there. We committed them to family prayer and, for the first time, Brother Euesden prayer when we asked him. When we came back home, we all anointed and blessed Elder Larsen the he'd get better.

Thursday October 3, 1968

Elder Larsen stayed in bed today. He's improving. In another day or so, he'll be back to work.

Friday October 4, 1968

Elder Larsen was up and around tonight. He still had to stay inside though. He wants to get out and work real bad. So do I.

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Saturday October 5, 1968

We stayed in all day. Elder Larsen wants to get back to work, but the doctor told him to stay inside. Tonight we went and taught the Browns a 2nd discussion. They're real good people. I hope we can baptize them.

Sunday October 6, 1968

When we arrived at Sunday School, I was very surprised to see brother & sister Euesden, Kevin & Bonita, Sister May, and Beverly and Wendy Franklin. We welcomed them all into church and then we left to teach Mr. & Mrs. Leyzop a 1st discussion. He's a Dutchman, very stubborn. We only got through the first half, then we had to catch a bus to Scunthorpe to listen to conference from Salt Lake City. It was great.

Monday October 7, 1968

For our "day off", we took it easy by walking around town and shopping (by window of course). Asll we could do was look. Then we went to the library and wrote some letters. Afterwards we went to the show. Tonight we went to Mr. Walkers and had a good discussion. He nearly "packed us in" but he didn't. We visited sister May for half an hour and came home.

Tuesday October 8, 1968

We went to the Franklins and taught them a 6th discussion and played a tape by Marion D. Hanks. They enjoyed it very much. They've learned a lot about the gospel. It rained all day, but it doesn't matter, our spirits were high.

Wednesday October 9, 1968

We tracted all day and met some weird people. President Gilmore went with us to the Euesdens and we challenged them very strongly to live the word of wisdom. The meeting was spiritual but they need to have a spiritual testimony. They're good people. I hope we can baptize them.

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Thursday October 10, 1968

Today tracing we met a vicar and left him a Book of Mormon. He's a nice guy, but not too sincere. We taught Mr. & Mrs. Leyzop a 1st discussion tonight. She was good, but he was spiritually dead. We're going to call back in a few weeks to see what they think of the Book of Mormon.

Friday October 11, 1968

It continued to rain today. (It's been raining all week.) We tracted today. We over to the Euesdens tonight and taught Kevin and Bonita a 3rd discussion. They all going to try to live the Word of Wisdom. They've promised to try hard. It would mean so much to me if they would.

Saturday October 12, 1968

We sold a Mr. & Mrs. Maleham a Book of Mormon. They're both teachers. The reason I'm writing about them is because they were so exceptionally interested. We taught brother & sister Brown a 3rd discussion. They're going to try to live it. They're good people.

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Sunday October 13, 1968

We taught a 1st discussion to a vicar, Mr. Palmer. He kicked all the way through, especially on "authority". We're going to go back – someday. We went and visited Steve Salisbury. He's had to go to the hospital to have a check up. (He's our landlords' son). He'll be in there a week. There's something wrong with him, but they don't know what.

Monday October 14, 1968

For "Preparation" day, we had a district meeting at the chapel. Afterwards we spent the afternoon at sister Dawe's. Tonight we all took sister Dawe to a Chinese restraint and then saw Mario Lanza in "The Great Caruso." It was a good movie. We all had a good time.

Tuesday October 15

We taught Mr. Curtis a 1st discussion today. He is golden. He's already read 100 pages in the Book of Mormon. Tonight we went over to sister May' and had a good discussion on faith. It was enjoyable to be there. She's a great lady.

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What a busy night. First we went over to Beverly and Wendy Franklins and taught them a 7th discussion. It was fun to teach them. We're going to baptize them on Friday. Then (at 9:00) we reaced out to Humberston to teach a 1st discussion to Dave and Jane Stoakes. They weren't very keen on it at all. We're going to stay in touch we them though.

Thursday October 17, 1968

Elder Larsen had a sore throat again this morning and had a bad cough. So he slept in, took some medicine and seated it out of himself. We were able to return to work after lunch. Tonight we taught Mr. Bird the first half of a 3rd discussion. We believes the Book of Mormon to be true, but its hard for him to accept the idea that there is only one true church. He's a real good man though. (He'd make a great stake president).

Friday October 18, 1968

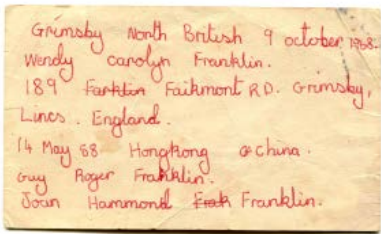
This morning the traveling Elders, Curtis and Calvert, worked with us. They gave us some helpful suggestions and ideas. This afternoon we picked up a new suit for Elder Larsen. Tonight, we baptized Beverly and Wendy Franklin. I baptized Beverly and Elder Larsen baptized Wendy. Then he confirmed Beverly and I confirmed Wendy. (I had to do it twice.) It was a wonderful baptismal service. About 25 or 30 members came to watch. We're real happy tonight. Beverly and Wendy are real happy and joyful. It was such a beautiful experience for them. It was wonderful just to see the look on their faces afterwards.



After the baptism of Beverly and Wendy Franklin



After the baptism of Beverly and Wendy Franklin



Draft of membership record for Wendy Carolyn Franklin.

Saturday October 19, 1968

Today we tracted. The J.W.'s have "invaded" our area. Oh well, they'll be gone in a day or so. We went the Euesden's to teach Keven and Bonita a discussion but they didn't show up. Bonita is sick, so Kevin didn't come. We did have a good talk with the Euesden's.

Sunday October 20, 1968

Church was great today. Everybody seemed happy. We went over and said hello to the Euesdens and the Knudson's this afternoon. Sacrament meeting was real good. I enjoyed it tremendously.

Monday October 21, 1968

Today was a full work day. We taught Mr. Curtis a 2nd discussion this morning and he took it real well. This afternoon, the D.L., Elder Dixon, worked with us. We all went out and tracted. Tonight we went to Sister May's and showed her "Mormon Pavilion" and had a good talk with her. Sister May's husband is coming home tomorrow, or Wednesday. We're fasting today for him.

Tuesday October 22, 1968

We tracted today and looked up Book of Mormon referrals. Tonight we went to see some of our investigators and some of the people to whom we sold Books of Mormon. It was an enjoyable night.

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Wednesday October 23, 1968

We tracted this morning and in the afternoon looked up some referrals. Tonight we went over to Mr. Walker's and gave him the letter which he had asked us to write. We talked to him out of the scriptures for an hour and a half, but he wouldn't listen. Then we went over to the Franklin's for an hour. Wendy made me some little drawings that I'm going to save. It's been terribly foggy all week. It's so thick all you can see is about 50 yards ahead.

Thursday October 24, 1968

We did the usual things today, tracting and tracting. The past few days haven't been very successful at all. Tonight we stopped at Sister Knudson's and picked up a drawing of Dani Ryan that Karen Knudson drew for me. It's a beautiful picture. I'm going to send it to sister Ryan and her do with it what she will.

Friday October 25, 1968

Today was our "Preparation Day". We went to Scunthorpe and had a district meeting with President Robison. He said I'm transferring on Monday and am going to open up a new area and also receive a "new Elder" from the states. That's quite a challenge. I hope I have the strength to do it. We went to the Euesden's and played them the tape "Miracles" by Matthew Cowley. They enjoyed it. They seemed more humble. I bid them farewell.



Matthew Cowley, Apostle

Saturday October 26, 1968

My official transfer papers came today. I packed most of my things tonight. We looked up referrals all day long. Tonight we went to the Browns. They told us they want us to stay in contact with them but they don't want to have any more discussions at the moment. So we spent the evening in an informal discussion. We talked about many things.

Sunday October 27, 1968

About half of the branch here in Grimsby took off to go to the London Temple. They left from the church just before Sunday School, so I got to say goodbye to most of them. Everyone here has been real good to me. I've enjoyed being here. Brother Smith took me down to the station in his taxi. I took my luggage down today to save taking it tomorrow. I phoned Sister May this afternoon and she asked her husband if we could come over and say goodbye. He said yes. That in itself was a breakthrough.. Up to this time he's refused to meet the Elders. So we went up there and I took a family picture of them. Mrs. May is really a nice man. Some day they'll all be baptized. Tonight after Sacrament meeting, I took a picture of the people who were still there. Afterwards, we went to the Franklins and played them the tape "Miracles". They enjoyed lit. They they recorded a couple of chapters of the "Pearl of Great Price" tape. They took some pictures of us and we left. I said goodbye to the Salisbury's because I won't see them tomorrow.



Members of the Grimsby Branch – Farewell for Bronson



The entire May Family



The entire May Family

Monday October 28, 1968

We got up at 6:00 a.m. and left before 7:00 so we could meet Mr. Bird down at the Fish docks in Grimsby, the largest fish docks in the world. He took us for a tour of the docks and the Ross Groups processing factory. It was interesting. Then I went to the train station at Grimsby and left at 10:30. At 2:30 I met Elder Blackham and part of the district and my "new Elder". His name is Elder Pugmire. We'll all get along good. He's got a lot to learn, but so do I. It's going to be enjoyable working here.



Elder Larsen with Mr. Bird on a tour of the Grimsby Docks and Ross Groups fish processing factor.

Tuesday October 29, 1968

Today Elder Pugmire and I went around town buying those things that he needed. About 2:30 we started looking for a man who had been taught all the discussions about 3 months ago, but who couldn't make the baptismal date because of military obligations. We found he house about 4:30. It's a long way from Barnsley, an 11 pence bus ride. Tonight we tracted a little bit and sold one Book of Mormon. It's going to be fun being here.



Elder Kimball Pugmire

Wednesday October 30, 1968

Today it took us only a couple of hours in the morning to take care of the items Elder Pugmire needs. This afternoon we looked up some referrals. We met one lady who was possessed. Tonight we went out and tracted. We sold a B.O.M. Elder Pugmire is getting "worn out". He'll get used to it though.

Thursday October 31, 1968

Elder Pugmire and I looked up a referral and made an appointment with her to teach her a 1st discussion. Elder Blackham and two of the other Elders worked with us in our area. We sold a couple of Books of Mormon. Then tonight, Elder Blackham and I taught a flip-chart 2nd to a salesman, Mr. Ramsden, who is interested. We'll be going back next week to teach him a 1st discussion. Elder Pugmire worked with Elder Roundy. They also taught a flip-chart 2nd. Tonight has been a real successful night.

Note: Elder Blackham is the one who found Steve Ramsden. He and his companion were walking down the street and saw him leaving a barber shop and were impressed that they should stop him. He was friendly to them and invited them back. That's how the flip-chart discussion came about.

Our address: 255 Park Road, Barnsley, Yorkshire

Friday November 1, 1968

We taught a Mrs. Addeson a 1st discussion today. (This morning). She wasn't really very good, but she could turn out. Elder Curtis and Elder Nelson, the traveling elders, worked with us this afternoon. We sold a B.O.M. Tonight we visited an inactive member (whose husband is a non-member.). They're good people. He gave us a ride home, too.

Saturday November 2, 1968

This morning it rained like cats and dogs. The wind was blowing about 30 miles an hour. We went out to Royston to look up a fellow named Mike Mann. He's had all the discussions, but wasn't able to meet his baptismal date. This afternoon we went to the tailor's and Elder Pugmire ordered a new suit. Then we tracted. Tonight we also tracted and found a family that seems very interested. When I tried to phone in the report, I couldn't get a hold of Elder Blackham, so I'll have to phone tomorrow morning.

Sunday November 3, 1968

Elder Pugmire and his companion got up at the usual time this morning (7:00) and dressed themselves, then phone in the report at a kiosk (phone booth) a half mile away. Then they came back and studied until it was time to go to church. They met the people in Barnsley's branch and discovered that they will have a good time working with the people in proselyting activities. The branch has a tremendous spirit and a strong testimony.

Note: the Barnsley Branch met at a house located at 34 Victoria Road in Barnsley.



Monday November 4, 1968

For Preparation Day, we went to Leeds and played basketball with the other Elders. I practiced the piano for a while. Then we went to a bath house for bath. (Everyone had one except me.) Then we went bowling. Then we came home. It was a lot of fun.

Tuesday November 5, 1968

Elder Pugmire and I taught a 2nd discussion to a real good family this morning. He seems real sincere. This afternoon we looked up some referrals. Tonight was Guy Faulk's night: we stopped...

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...in at the church and said hello to them. We watched all the fireworks. Everybody enjoyed themselves.

Wednesday November 6, 1968

This morning and this afternoon we tracted. There weren't very many people home today. Tonight we went out to Royston to teach a 1st discussion but couldn't. Then we went over to Mike Mann's to see if we could find him. He was home. He's got a very strong testimony of the church. He can't be baptized because of reasons which told us, be we can't tell. In two week, we're going to have a special fast with him. Hopefully we can overcome his problem. When we got home I had a conversation with someone who lives here. We talked for over an hour. I gave him a Joseph Smith pamphlet and a "Which Church is Right" pamphlet in the end. He's a sincere man who is looking for the truth.

Thursday November 7, 1968

Today will be a day for me to remember. It's the day I bought my first pair of fur-lined shoes. Today I lost my temper and Elder Pugmire just got the worst of it. Losing my temper humbled me, and afterwards we were both closer to the spirit. Tonight we went to Mr. Ramsden's to teach him a 1st discussion. It took us 3 wrong buses, a mile and a half of walking and over an hour to get to his house. And it rained tonight. Mr. Ramsden was very sincere and as the discussion progressed, he became humble. It was a beautiful experience for all of us. He accepted the Date of December 16, as a baptismal date. It was a wonderful experience to have that meeting tonight.

Note: while we were having all this trouble finding Steve Ramsden, I told Elder Pugmire that "If we find him, we're going to baptize him for sure!" About 10 minutes later, we found him, and we did ultimately baptize him.



1968. Steve Ramsden, manager of a liquor shop- before baptism.



1975. Steve Ramsden, after joining the church.

Note : As our bus trip progressed, I became increasingly worried that we were totally lost and would be unable to find his house. The bus we were on was travelling west and it was dark (I think around 7 or 7:30 pm). I saw to my left a large empty field and to my right, the lights of a small town. I felt strongly we should just get off the bus. We talked from this main road toward the lights. Eventually, I learned that we probably got off the bus somewhere around the junction of Lane Head road and church street. My goal was to walk towards the lights (assuming it was the town center) and find someone who could direct us to Barnby furnace. We walked around for a while, but were unsuccessful at locating anyone who could help. Our last stop was at a pub named "Spencer Arms". Again, no one recognized the name. So I gave up and decided it was time to find a bus and return home. I wasn't sure where the nearest bus stop back to Barnsley was, so we started walking back towards the M1 freeway, which could easily be seen. While we were having all this trouble finding Steve Ramsden, I told Elder Pugmire that "If we find him, we're going to baptize him for sure!" About 10 minutes later, we walked right past the landmark which I had memorized from my first trip there. From the landmark, we turned right and walked along a small road that lead directly to his house. He was baptized on December 16, 1968.



Note: his address was 3, Barnby Furnace, Cawthorne, Barnsley S75 4DS



The path leading up to Barnby Furnace



Barnby Furnace



Barnby Furnace



Barnby Furnace

Friday November 8, 1968

We received a letter from the mission home asking us to go out to Goldthorpe to find a referral. We went out and searched all day, but we couldn't find Arthur Clayton. We went around visiting the people we are in contact with. This area is beginning to grow.

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Saturday November 9, 1968

At we did today was tract and survey. Both were pretty fruitless. The cold these past few days has been bone chilling. We phone in reports at 10:30. By the way, the nearest working kiosk is ½ mile away.

Sunday November 10, 1968

We went to Stake Conference at Huddersfield. Boyd K. Packer was the main speaker. It was wonderful to hear him speak. He spoke about the family. One of Mrs. Benson's huskies died today. Tonight we taught Mr. & Mrs. Jones a 1st discussion. They kicked and bucked all the way. All they could think about was tithing and the word of wisdom. They didn't pack us in, but it's going to be tough for the Lord to convert them.

Monday November 11, 1968

Today we had the entire day off. We mailed a package each and I mailed about 20 Christmas cards. Then we went bowling. Then we came home and studied.

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Tuesday November 12, 1968

Elder Pugmire and I went tracting out near where Mr. Ramsden lives. The reception was pretty good. We met a lady who had lived in Brigham City, until 1912. She was nice and friendly. We sold a couple of Books of Mormon today. Elder Pugmire caught a cold today and is feeling miserable. So, we stayed in tonight. It's too bad, we had to cancel an appointment.

Wednesday November 13, 1968

Elder Pugmire stayed in bed today and studied the discussion. Elder Blackham (the D.L.) and Elder Roundy came over this morning to work with us. Elder Roundy stayed with Elder Pugmire and Elder Blackham and I went out tracting. This afternoon and this evening was spent going over the 2nd discussion. Elder Pugmire finally passed off the 2nd discussion about 10:00 tonight. He was glad. So was I. He has the ability to memorize quickly and retain the things he memorizes. He's going to be a real good missionary. It's quite an experience with a "new Elder". It's teach me just how little I actually know. I hope I can increase my knowledge and wisdom.



Elder Roundy

Thursday November 14, 1968

Last night I had a wonderful dream about missionary work in the spirit world. It was fabulous. The flannel board characters were out of this world. Anyway, back to the earth. We taught Mr. Ramsden a 2nd discussion last night. He accepted it real well. I hope his testimony will grow stronger so we can give him the Word of Wisdom (He manages a liquor store and brews his own wine). If he's ready though, he'll accept it.

Friday November 15, 1968

We went out and did a full day's work. But I don't think Elder Pugmire was quite ready for it. Tonight we went over to the Fields and showed them and Mr. & Mrs. Townsend "Mormons in the British Isles". They all enjoyed it. They'll be to church on Sunday if he can get his car working. It was a good evening.

Saturday November 16, 1968

The cold Elder Pugmire has started to move down into his chest, so for safety's sake we stayed in today. He'll be back to work straight away, I'm sure.

Sunday November 17, 1968

Tonight we went over to Wakefield to help Elder Miller & Sullivan teach a couple of discussions. Elder Miller & Pugmire taught a 3rd discussion and Elder Sullivan & I taught a 2nd discussion. We got through so late that we missed the last train and the last bus. So we had to sleep in the other Elders chairs all wrapped up in blankets. We had a good evening. I'm glad we could help them.



Elder Miller



Elder Sullivan



Elder Pugmire

Monday November 18, 1968

We helped the other Elders clean up their flat. The district picked us up about 12:30. We went for a tour of a bread bakery and a shirt factory. It was good. Tonight the district held a spiritual development meeting. The main theme was on setting goals. It was a great meeting. We got home at midnight.

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Tuesday November 19, 1968

Today's my birthday. President Robison also came by the house, with his assistants, at noon-time, but we were getting haircuts then, so we missed them. I don't know what they wanted. We met with the branch presidency and discussed ways of bringing new life back into the branch.

Wednesday November 20, 1968

We tracted today and we were blessed with finding a young family who invited us back to teach. A package from home (a birthday present) arrived – was full of beef jerkey. I'll treat it like a Scotsman. Tonight we taught that family a 1st discussion. It went beautifully. They were in tune with the spirit. The discussion lasted only 45 minutes. I thank the Lord we met them and that we have the privilege of teaching them and baptizing them on December 30th. That's the day we projected for them. I hope they make it. The gospel is wonderful. It would make a real change in these people's lives.

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Thursday November 21, 1968

We tracted today and sold a Book Of Mormon. We've met some exceptionally good people in the past few days. Tonight President & Sister Rushforth went with us to see Mr. Ramsden. We didn't present a discussion, instead we played "Miracles" by Matthew Cowley. He said he'd heard it over the radio about two years ago. I don't see how. He was still impressed by the tape and with the discussion tonight.

Friday November 22, 1968

Elder Blackham and Elder Wilcock came over this morning. We worked with them. They had some joint study and Elder Pugmire tried to give a 3rd discussion, but he was a little too nervous and he forgot most of it. Elder Blackham then took us over to Wakefield so we could work with the Elders over there. Elder Pugmire surveyed with Elder Wilcock, I tracted with Elder Sullivan, and Elder Blackham and Elder Miller looked up referrals. Tracting we met a real nice Scottish lady. She invited us back. Tonight we tried to get hold of Mike Mann, but he wasn't in.

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Saturday November 23, 1968

We looked up some referrals this morning, but didn't meet with any success. Surveying was fun this afternoon. Tonight we rode bicycles for the first time in this area. Boy are we pooped! The hills over in this part of Yorkshire are terrible. (But was fun.)

Sunday November 24, 1968

This morning we prepared talks for Sacrament Meeting this afternoon. Elder Pugmire spoke on "Our Hope in Christ." He did a fine job. I spoke on "Why We Need a Prophet". And a stake high councilman spoke on the importance of scriptures. He gave a good talk. Tonight we listened to some tapes and wrote letters. Elder Pugmire is a very good person and should become a fine missionary. I have a lot of respect for him and his ways. In some ways, he's more prepared to do missionary work than me. One of my faults must be envy, because I would like to have many of his personality traits. He's a great guy, even if he is a "greenie". I'm still wet behind the ears myself.

Monday November 25, 1968

Today was a regular work day. We tracted this morning and looked up some referrals this afternoon. We sold one Book of Mormon. Tonight we were “packed in” by Mr. Townsend so we tracted some more. Then we came home. We rode bicycles tonight.

Tuesday November 26, 1968

This morning Elder Pugmire tried out his new suit. It's too tight. Then we went tracting and found a good man. Elder Blackham and Elder Roundy worked with us this afternoon. Elder Blackham and I surveyed (found 3 good people) and Elder Roundy and Elder Pugmire taught the Carlson's a 2nd discussion. They said it went real well. Tonight we met with the branch presidency and tried to find Mike Mann. This has been a pretty damp day. It began good, but finished up by raining. We've been blessed though, because we're finding some people that we can teach and baptize.

Wednesday November 27, 1968

Today we tracing in the morning and afternoon. We sold 2 B.O.M.'s. Tonight we went to teach a 1st discussion, but the lady wasn't home. We rode our bicycles everywhere again today. We save a lot of time by riding them. Mrs. Benson made us some cocoa. It hit the spot. Sister Schultz sent me a letter with \$5 in it. I got it today.

Thursday November 28, 1968

This morning we went out to see the Carlsons. This afternoon we taught an exceptionally good 1st discussion to Mr. Mumford, who is about 65 years old. Then tonight we went out to Mrs. Ramsden's and gave him a 3rd discussion. He accepted it and is going to try to live it. We also played the tape “Profile of a Prophet”, which he enjoyed. I really love teaching brother Ramsden. He's humble and sincere, and yet he's very smart. By the way, he's the manager of a Wine & Spirit shop. Also in the side porch, where we've been teaching him, there are 5 or 6 gallon jars of home brewed wine. He's going to give it away.



Address : 1 Wellington Street, Barnsley . The intersecting street is Pitt Street.

This is the Wine & Spirit shop that Steve Ramsden was the manager of when he met the missionaries in 1968

Address : 1 Wellington Street, Barnsley. Intersects with Pitt Street.



This shop was still in business in 2020, .

Address : 1 Wellington Street, Barnsley. Intersects with Pitt Street.

Friday November 29, 1968

We got up at 5:30 and left the house at 6:30 to go to Leeds. We made preparations for a Thanksgiving dinner that we had this afternoon. The whole district worked on it. Two zones came to it (65 elders). President & Sister Robison were there. Elder Wilcock cooked the turkeys. The whole meal was delicious: baked potatoes, yams, corn, turkey, apple sauce, cranberry sauce and Hires Root Beer. Everything was great (except for the pumpkin pie, it tasted like it had molasses in it). Afterwards we went and saw a movie, as a district.

This comment was made by Hal Wilcock in an email to Bronson on March 5, 2020:

Just a note on the thanksgiving dinner, I do remember it well. The sister missionaries helped us cook the meal and because we couldn't find pumpkin for the pie they peeled and crushed carrots to make the pie with. They had orange hands for a few days after that. (probably why it tasted different).



Nov. 29, 1968. Leeds Chapel. Left to Right:
Sister Meachan, Sorenson, Alexander, McCracken, Bott



Brother & Sister Robison are in the left center.

Saturday November 30, 1968

We missed our train last night so we slept at the D.L.'s place. We slept in sleeping bags on the floor. We took the train back to here and worked the rest of the day. It was fruitful too. We sold 3 Books of Mormon and met some very fine people. Elder Pugmire is enjoying his mission a little more now.

Sunday December 1, 1968

After church today we went to see the Carlson's. They weren't home. They we stopped by Mr. Mumford's. His wife is giving him a hard time about having us over. Then tonight we went out to see Mr. Ramsden and teach him a 4th discussion. It went well. He's going to be baptized. I'm glad.

Monday December 2, 1968

Today we went to Leeds and had a district meeting. We played basketball and the sisters cooked us some hamburgers and gave us a good meal. We went to teach the Townsends a 1st discussion, but Harry's got a job and he had to go to work. We'll get to them sometime, though.

Tuesday December 3, 1968

This morning we taught Mr. and Mrs. Carlson a 3rd discussion. They're not sure about it, but I think they'll try. We had an appointment this afternoon, but it didn't hold up very well. Tonight we met with the Branch President, then tried to find Mike Mann. He wasn't home.

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Wednesday December 4, 1968

This morning we saw Mr. Ramsden and took Mr. & Mrs. Carlson a can of Pioneer Coffee substitute. They said they would try it. I want to see them baptized. Tracting was slow this afternoon. Tonight we looked up a referral, but he wasn't home.

Thursday December 5, 1968

This morning Elder Pugmire and I went to see a referral out in Wombwell. We gave him a copy of the B.O.M. I don't think he's too interested. Then this afternoon, Elders Blackham & Roundy and Miller & Sullivan came over here to work with us in our area. We split up and formed the teams of: Blackham & Pugmire, Roundy & Miller, and Sullivan & Gardner. All of us tracted. Elders Roundy & Miller found a real good family. Sullivan & I found a 70 yr. old lady who just might accept the gospel. Tonight Blackham and I went out to Brother Ramsdens' to teach the gospel to him. We taught him a 5th discussion. We had a wonderful spiritual evening. Elder Roundy & Pugmire tracted tonight. They met some interesting people. It was a good evening.

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Friday December 6, 1968

This morning we talked to Mrs. Carlson for a few minutes. Then we tracted the rest of the morning. In the afternoon we surveyed. We didn't find many good people. Tonight we had an appointment with a 70 yr. old lady but she wasn't home.

Saturday December 7 1968

This morning we made some call backs and tracted for a while. We sold a B.O.M. This afternoon we had a couple of appointments, but they fell through. The same happened tonight. Oh well, better luck next time.

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Monday December 9, 1968

This morning Elder Pugmire passed off the 5th discussion. One more discussion and he's through. This afternoon we went to Dewsbury and had a tour of the Slazenger Sporting Goods factory, the largest in the world. It was very interesting. I wish we could have seen more. We saw how they make tennis rackets and golf clubs. I bought a Scottish Doll for Sister Schulz and I'll be mailing it home for Christmas.

Tuesday December 10, 1968

Elder Pugmire and I called back on a lady this morning. We're going to teach her a 1st discussion tomorrow. This afternoon we taught the Carlsons a 4th discussion, then they packed us in. They just not ready for the gospel. They have an academic knowledge that the church is true, but they have no spiritual conviction, so they have no strength. We met with the branch presidency tonight and discussed the upcoming baptismal service. Then we went to Royston to look for Mike Mann, but he wasn't home. We visited some inactive members, the Browns. They are nice people.

Wednesday December 11, 1968

We taught a 1st discussion to a spiritually dead lady. It was impossible to have a receptive atmosphere. Her two kids were yelling and trying to playing with us all through the discussion. It was frustrating. Tonight we taught a 1st to a fellow who has studied with the J.W.'s for 7 months. He thinks he's smart and intellectual, but he's not. Mr. Mason couldn't accept Joseph Smith, but we're going to teach him a 2nd discussion next week.

Thursday December 12, 1968

Today has been a remarkable day. After having a rather unsuccessful morning working in our area, we went to Wakefield to work with the new District Leader, Elder Preston, and Elders Roundy, Miller & Sullivan. Roundy & Sullivan worked together, Preston went with Pugmire, and I tracted with Sullivan. We had a very successful afternoon. We sold 2 B.O.M.'s and gained 3 positive returns. Then Elders Preston & Roundy treated us to a steak dinner, because Elder Pugmire passed off all six (6) discussions before today. Tonight Elder Preston and I taught Brother Ramsden a 6th discussion. He accepted ...

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...Tithing very well. He's not a stranger to giving out 10% or more of his income. Elder Preston then interviewed him for baptism. He passed. We're going to baptize him on Monday. I'm so grateful for his acceptance of what we have. He knows the gospel is true.



Elder Preston (on the left) and Elder Roundy

Friday December 13, 1968

Elder Pugmire and I took care of some essential details this morning. We ordered Mrs. Benson some flowers for a Christmas present. Then we tracted morning and afternoon. Tonight we saw the Rushforths for about an hour. They're going to be called as local missionaries. We plan to work with them as much as possible. They're going to take Brother Ramsden and us to Dewsbury to the baptism on Monday. We're really looking forward to Brother Ramsden's baptism. I think he's a great man. It means a lot to me to be an instrument in bringing someone into the church. I want to baptize a lot of people. Elder Pugmire is starting off his mission on the right foot. I hope he'll take advantage of it and baptize hundreds.



Kimball Pugmire



Kimball Pugmire

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Saturday December 14, 1968

Yesterday, I forgot to say, was an extremely cold day. So was today. It's been bone-chilling all this week. We tracted this morning. Not many people were home. This afternoon we surveyed. It was very interesting. A Salvation Army band played on a street corner asking for donations. And a truck with a Jazz band, Dick Wittington's, drove around town playing Jazz. Tonight we tracted and got into 3 homes and sold 1 B.O.M. and loaned another.

Sunday December 15, 1968

Today we went to brother Ramsden and gave him a 7th discussion. He understood it very well. Besides that, he liked it. Elder Pugmire and I gave a 2 ½ minute talk apiece. Brother Ramsden had a good discussion with the branch presidency after Sacrament Meeting. We're all looking forward to his baptism tomorrow night. He's a great man.

Monday December 16, 1968

Today we tracted nowhere. Instead of that, we went to Leeds for a District Meeting. It was very informative on how to sell B.O.M's. The traveling Elders (Blackham and Martin) came back with us. We made final arrangements with the Rushforth's to give brother Ramsden a ride to the baptism. Then we had a study class with them. The baptism was a success. There were 6 children baptized and brother Ramsden. We had a spiritual feast. It was a great service.



Baptism of Steve Ramsden
16 December 1968



Baptism of Steve Ramsden
16 December 1968
Backrow: Bronson, Steve, Pugmire
Middle Row: George Richard Birkhead, Martin,
Fred Leeding Mills
Front Row: Elder Blackham

Tuesday December 17, 1968

Today we marked a stack of B.O.M.'s for our new door approach and we wrapped up a bunch of them for the members. We sold 6 B.O.M's wrapped up as Christmas presents to the members. We also helped them put up a few decorations in the chapel for their Christmas program. It gave us a chance to get better acquainted with the members. We also got a couple of referrals from them, so it was a worthwhile evening.

Wednesday December 18, 1968

Today was quite a day. We called on a referral and we tracted the morning and part of the afternoon. We met a total of 8 people, and sold 2 B.O.M's and loaned 2 BOM's. We taught Mrs. Robinson a 1st discussion. She believed it. She was humble and sincerely honest. When we asked her what she learned she said "That I'm not baptized!". It was a pleasure to teach her. Tonight was different; we taught Mr. & Mrs. Mason a 2nd discussion. It was fruitless. Mrs. Mason said she want to burn the B.O.M and Mr. Mason, though still interested, does not or cannot, feel it spiritually. He's got an academic way of praying, studying and trying to understand God and his ways. He's a lot like a Jehovah's Witness. Today brother Ramsden gave us each a pair of gloves. He said he didn't like to see cold missionaries.

Thursday December 19, 1968

We went to Leeds to a zone Conference. They talked about ways to sell 25 B.O.M.'s a week. It was an inspirational meeting. Afterwards we had a testimony meeting for an hour. I saw Elder Larsen, my last companion, afterwards. He's getting ready to baptize in Cleethorpes. I'm glad for him. Today was a good day.

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Friday December 20, 1968

We made some B.O.M. call backs today but the people weren't home. We also went to Mrs. Bennett's house to teach her a 2nd discussion but she also was busy. She had to take her boy to the hospital for a checkup. I left my flannel board on the bus out to the house but by the time we arrived back at the bus station, the bus I had left it on had returned, so my flannel board was recovered. Talk about blessings! That's about all for today.

Saturday December 21, 1968

This morning the D.L. and his companion worked with us. Elder Roundy and I looked for some B.O.M. call backs, but they weren't home. Elder Preston, the D.L., and Elder Pugmire looked for a new place for us to live. They didn't find one. Then we all went to Leeds where Round and I took a steam bath to clear up the congestion in my lungs and Preston and Pugmire tracted and looked up referrals in Leeds. The train was late in leaving and had mechanical trouble. We got home at 8:30. End of day.

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Sunday December 22, 1968

This morning Elder Pugmire and I looked for new digs to stay in. These are o.k. but we need something more suitable. Sunday School and Sacrament meetings were good. They had a Christmas theme to them. Brother Ramsden enjoyed being there. It was good to have him come. He's going to be a real good member. Tomorrow we're going to have a look at a place to stay. I hope it will suit our needs.

Monday December 23, 1968

This morning we went out looking for a new place to stay. We haven't got any real solid leads. Elder Preston came over here to talk about it. This afternoon we went to teach Mrs. Robinson a 2nd discussion, but we suddenly discovered we were to teach a 1st discussion to her husband and a friend of theirs. They were all receptive. Then we taught them all a 2nd discussion. It was a wonderful experience. Mrs. Robinson kept on coaching the other two for the answers, and they agreed with her. We went with Brother Ramsden tonight to a branch dinner at a Chinese restaurant. It was real good. Everyone enjoyed themselves.

Tuesday December 24, 1968

This morning and afternoon we looked up referrals, made B.O.M. call backs and tracted. Everyone was friendly, but they were all quite busy. Tonight we went to Leeds and joined the other missionaries. First we went to a nice part of town and sang at people's doors. When they came out, instead of taking money, we gave them a pamphlet. It was exciting. After that we went over to the sister's house and had a roast turkey, fried chicken, all sorts of candy, popcorn, crackers & shrimp; it was a feast. Then Elders Miller, Sullivan, Human, Conrad, Pugmire and Gardner (me) went to the East Leeds chapel to sleep overnight. We each had a blanket and no pillow or mattress, just the floor. It was very warm inside so we didn't need much cover. It was a wonderful way to spend Christmas Eve.



The East Leeds Chapel

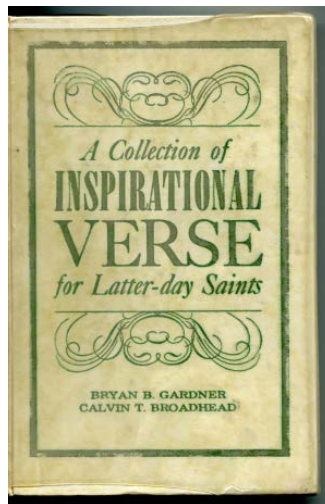


1968, December 24. The entire group of missionaries that had Christmas Eve together in Leeds.

Christmas

Wednesday December 25, 1968

We all got up about 8:00 in the chapel. A few minutes later, after we'd all got dressed, the district leader, Elder Preston, brought in the rest of the district. First we exchanged Christmas presents, then they fixed breakfast. We ate eggs, ham, hash browns, a pint of milk each, and bread. It was a good meal. We finally left Leeds about 12:00 and got to Barnsley about 2:00. The buses weren't running a normal service because of Christmas. We went straight out to Brother Ramsden's and had a great turkey dinner. It was a delicious meal. We stayed out there for a couple of hours. On the way home we stopped at the Boyce's and they fed us. Then we went to see the Wisinefski's and they gave us some trifle. Between yesterday and today, we've eaten enough food to last a week. People have just treated us tremendously. Mrs. Benson even gave us some cake, though we could hardly eat it.



This is the present I received.

Boxing Day

Thursday December 26, 1968

Today we made preparations to close down Barnsley. We were told about it last night, I mean night before last. We saw the Rushforth's, the new local missionaries, and they are going to take over here for us. Tonight we went to see the Fields. I think Mr. Fields will read it now. He also wants to read "Marvelous Work and a Wonder". Our discussion tonight was good.

Friday December 27, 1968

This morning we called on people we knew who are interested in the gospel. We wanted to tell them we are leaving. This afternoon we taught Mrs. Benett a 2nd discussion. It was fruitless, though. We went to a branch presidency meeting, but the branch President (Brother Firth) & first counselor (Sam Spiel) didn't show up. The 2nd counselor, Malcom Twigg, did show up and we had a good talk with him. His girl friend was with him. Surprisingly, we talked to one of her boy friends at the door about a week ago. He was impressed with us. I'm sorry to have to leave Barnsley. I really love it here.

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Saturday December 28, 1968

Elder Preston came over at 1:00 today and had a study class with us. Then we took our luggage to the train station and found out the luggage room was closed (oh, well). We went to Hoyland tonight to give a B.O.M. to an elderly couple. They were nice, but not too interested in having us call back. Then we came home and went to bed, after phone in reports.

Sunday December 29, 1968

The members all said goodbye today and were sad about our leaving, but happy that we could do the work somewhere else. We each gave a 5 minute talk. After Sacramento meeting we talked to brother Ramsden for about an hour. We're all good friends. We came home and made final preparations to leave tomorrow morning.

Monday December 31, 1968

We left the house in a taxi about 8:30 and go on the train at 9:00. At 7:00 we'd ridden our bikes down to the train station and ridden a bus back. We did it this way because

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The taxi wasn't big enough for two bicycles. Elder Pugmire left for Tyneside and I came to Carlisle. I arrived about 12:50. At 2:30 I finally found the flat. I'd ridden by it about a dozen times but never saw it. We saw some members tonight and also saw a newly baptized member girl. It was a good evening. I'm companion to Elder McDonald, the District Leader.

Tuesday December 31, 1968

We looked for referrals today. About 11:00 Elder McDonald and I taught a lady a 3rd discussion. Afterwards, she gave us a box of cigarettes. It was wonderful. I think she's going to try very hard to live it. Tonight we visited some members who were having a New Year's Eve party. It's hard to believe a new year has begun.



Elder McDonald





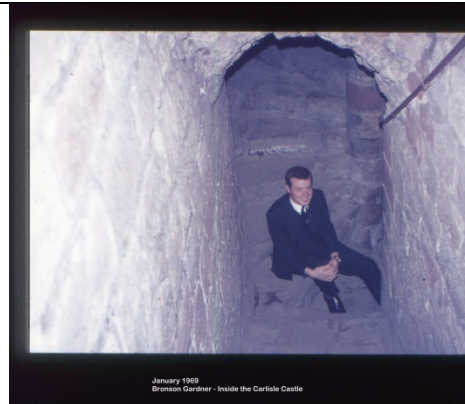
The top floor flat (apartment) where Bronson and his companion's lived in Carlisle. They lived above the Dunglinson Electrical Shop. Entrance was through the door marked "6".



"SPIRIT VAULTS"
WEST TOWER STREET
ENR. BUILDING



Carlisle Castle



Bronson – inside Carlisle Castle

Wednesday January 1, 1969

For Preparation Day, we stayed around the house for a while. Then we went to the church and washed the car. Then tonight we went to a show. We saw the "Forsyth Saga". It was a very good show. Tomorrow we're going to work with the other two teams in the district.

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Thursday January 2, 1969

Elder McDonald and I left the house at 7:30 and drove over to Workington to work with Snee & Hendrickson. Snee had twisted his ankle and couldn't work. We had a study class with them. In the afternoon we went to Whitehaven to work with Sullivan and Crawford. We had a short study class. They've only been out a few months each. I worked with Sullivan. He's a good Elder. He needs experience, but he'll be good. Each team sold a B.O.M. Elder "Mac" met a spiritualist who told his fortune.



The road to Workington



On the way to Workington

Friday January 3, 1968

This morning we took a bath and then went to the bank. After that we went to Erika's and taught her a 4th discussion. It was a pretty good discussion, but Patrick, her 5 yr. old son, kept causing a lot of interruptions. In the afternoon we looked up a referral that came from the South-West British Mission. We talked to the wife and she asked us to come back tonight. We did, but Mr. Goodum had already made an app't so he couldn't see us.

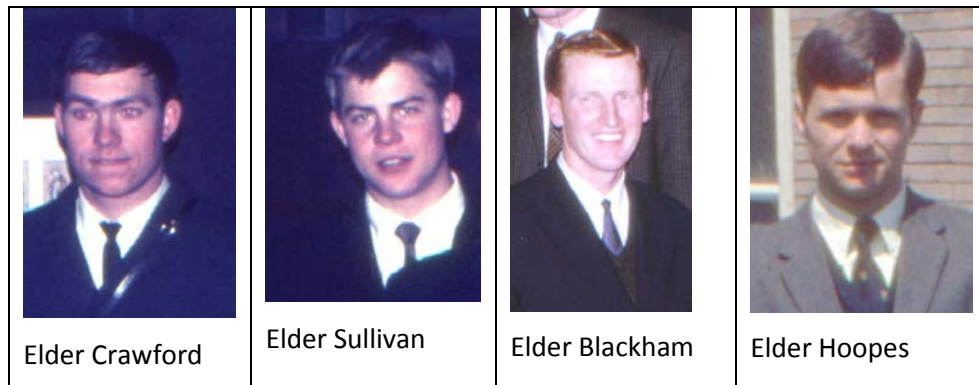
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Saturday January 4, 1969

This morning we shopped for food, went to the bank, and took care of a few other odds and ends. Elder McDonald and I tracted this afternoon. We were in a good area and met some very good people. Tonight we gave Hazel and Barbara and Sister Tarkington a fellowshipping discussion and a tape, "Seeking Thick Things" by Marion D. Hanks. It was a good evening, but they weren't as responsive as they could have been

Sunday January 5, 1969

Elder McDonald taught the investigators class today. It was a good class. Testimony meeting was also very good. We had about 4 investigators there. Then we drove over to Workington to meet with Elders Snee, Hendrickson, Crawford, Sullivan and the Traveling Elders Blackham and Hoopes. We had a spiritual development meeting. In the meeting we played the tape "Life's Strangest Secret". Then all of us attended a fireside at the Workington Church. They showed 3 films - they were very good. One was about the Tabernacle Choir, one about Home Teaching, and the other was about marriage. Then we all slept at the chapel. All we had for sleeping were an air mattress, a coat, and a blanket.



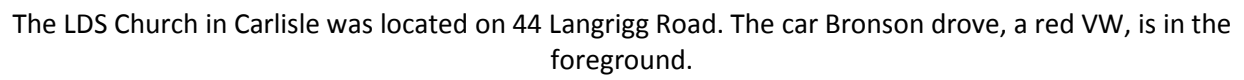
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Monday January 6, 1969

For Preparation Day, we had a short District Meeting then drove over to the Lake District. We took about an hour to do some sightseeing and photographing. About 12:00 we started climbing a small mountain. It took an hour and a half to get to the top. I sure am tired from it. The view from the top was beautiful. It reminded me of Utah or California. Tonight we participated in the weekly sports night at the church in Carlisle. We had at least 8 youth investigators there. It was wonderful. We very much enjoyed it.



Lake District View



Tuesday January 7, 1969

We spent the entire of today teaching. First of all, we taught Erica Bone a 5th discussion this morning. Then we had a good "problem solving" discussion with her and then we went over to Sister Tarkington's', an investigator and the mother of Erika. We had a 2 hr. discussion with her. Then we took a bath and ate tea. Tonight we had a discussion with a family that have been taught a few discussions but are very unreceptive.

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Wednesday January 8, 1969

Elder McDonald and I went out to Longtown to find a referral. The people weren't home. My check from home arrived today. Brother Ramsden, from Barnsley, wrote me a letter and it arrived today. It's one of the best letters I've ever had. We stopped at M.I.A. for a few minutes. Before that, though, we attended a branch presidency meeting. We visited some inactive members tonight. When we came home we bought some fish & chips and went to bed.

Thursday January 9, 1969

We taught Erica Bone an improvised discussion. She understood it real well. Erika's been living the Word of Wisdom. Her testimony is growing very well. At 1:00 Elder McDonald and I taught Mrs. Tomsly a 1st discussion. She accepts it well, but is afraid of what her husband might think. We're going to go back next week. Tonight we had dinner with Brother and Sister Britton, the 1st counselor in the Branch Presidency here. Then we went out and visited an inactive member.

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Friday January 10, 1969

Elder "Mac" and I got up at 6:00 as normal, and we left about 7:45. We worked with Elders Crawford and Sullivan in the morning and afternoon. In the morning both teams tracted and put out a total of 5 B.O.M's. In the afternoon Elder Crawford and I went to Seascale to give a man a free B.O.M. (we gave it to his wife) and Elder McDonald taught Elder Sullivan a 3rd discussion. Tonight we went to see the new Elder (Anderson). We tracted again and put out (distributed 6 more B.O.M's). So today we passed out a dozen B.O.M's. We're happy about it.

Saturday January 11, 1969

Today we got haircuts and washed our clothes. This afternoon we taught Hazel Turkington a fellowshipping discussion. Barbara, an investigator (I don't know her last name) sat in on it. We played the tape "Life's Strangest Secret". Then tonight, we went to Sister Tarkington's to start a fast so she can live the Word of Wisdom. We showed her the film "Science Supports the Gold Plate Story". Then we had a very lively discussion for two hours on the Negro and the priesthood. It was a very frustrating evening.

Sunday January 12, 1969

This morning we prepared our talks for Sacrament meeting this evening. Olive Rankine gave us a baptismal permission slip. We'll probably baptize her in a few weeks. Elder McDonald and I gave talks in Sacrament meeting. I felt good about the way we presented them. The words seemed to flow effortlessly out. I'm pleased with it.

Monday January 13, 1969

The district met in our flat today. Elder McDonald interviewed everyone. Then we went to a fish & chip shop, then to a movie. After that, we all went to a Sports night at the chapel here in Carlisle .

Tuesday January 14, 1969

Boy did I get a surprise today. I've been appointed the District Leader of the Lake District! I'll be taking over when Elder McDonald leaves on Thursday. My first district! We spend part of today washing clothes, and we also talked to Erica Bone for a while. The rest of the day we took care of necessities concerning Elder "Mac's" departure.

Wednesday January 15, 1969

We were supposed to teach a 2nd discussion, but the lady wasn't home. The rest of the day we packed. Tonight we went to M.I.A. and he said goodbye to everyone.

Thursday January 16, 1969

Hazel Turkington, who Elder McDonald baptized, and another investigator of his named Barbara, a friend of Hazel's came down to the train station to see him off. He left on the 8:35 train. In a day or so, he'll be home. I hope he can pop over to visit my parents and family. It would be tremendous if he could. My new companion, Elder Squire, came out with me last January. Quite a coincidence. Tonight we went to Longtown to see a referral, but they "packed us in". Then we visited Sister Turkington, an investigator and tried to get closer to her so we can help her live the Word of Wisdom. One of our neighbors' baby died a few days ago. The parents and some relatives came over. Then she fixed us some Caro and bacon and eggs.



Elder Squire



Elder Squire

Friday January 17, 1969

It is very hard to believe, but it has been one year today since I started my mission. Now my mission is ½ over. I feel sad and happy. Sad that the time is flying by so quickly and happy because I know the best part of my mission is in the future. Today I interviewed Erica Bone for baptism. We tracted this afternoon while it was snowing. It was a lark. Not many people were home, though. We taught Barbara Pace's boyfriend tonight, plus 2 or 3 of her girlfriends. This has been a great way to "commemorate" my arrival over here.

Books Read (and date completed) for the second 6 months of my mission:

New Testament – October 2, 1968

Book of Mormon – December 8, 1968

Jesus the Christ – December 18, 1968

Pearl of Great Price – December 28, 1968

Saturday January 18, 1969

This morning we worked with the Whitehaven elders. They've got a lot of ability, but are not enthused very much. I pray the Lord will help me change that. In the afternoon we worked with the Workington team. Elder Hendrickson has 20 days left in the field, but he has a fairly new Elder and wants to work up until the end. Tonight we saw Barbara Pace's father. He won't sign for her yet, but we managed to make friends.

Sunday January 19, 1969

Today was a good day. After Sunday School we showed a Mr. & Mrs. Sargeson the film "Mormons in the British Isles". They were impressed. We're going to call back to teach them a 1st discussion. I'm looking forward to it. Paul, Barbara's boyfriend, came to Sacrament meeting. I hope we're able to impress him the right way. He's a good lad, but he's not entirely convinced on any religion at the moment.

Monday January 20, 1969

Elder Squire and I did a multitude of things today for preparation day. First all we had a new headlamp bulb put it, then we went to the bank, shopping, paid rent, took a bath and recorded music at sister Harrison's. I was thrown for a looped tonight when Hazel and Erica thought the baptism was on Sunday instead of Saturday. So we rushed around arranging the service for Sunday, instead of Saturday. Everything's taken care of though.

Tuesday January 21, 1969

It felt good to do a complete day of almost nothing but survey tracting. We loaned out 9 B.O.M's today. Elder Squire is a good Elder, but he needs to have a bit more initiative. The people we met today weren't tremendously interested. In fact, some of them were downright hostile. In the afternoon we visited sister Turkington and counseled with her on the Word of Wisdom. She finally admitted she didn't entirely accept Joseph Smith. So we talked out, and settled, some more of her problems. Then she doubted the BOM. She expressed interest in the book "Trial of the Stick of Joseph" so I loaned it to her.

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Wednesday January 22, 1969

We had a good day today. In tracting we loaned out 8 B.O.M.'s, which is not too bad. But tonight I met the most unusual referral of my mission. His name is McCloud. He's totally blind and lives on his own. Mr. McCloud is very intelligent, being an electrician by trade. Elder McDonald has borrowed a part of a braille B.O.M. from the mission home so that we could loan it to him. He wants very much to read it. I'm looking forward to teaching him.

Thursday January 23, 1969

Elder Squire and I made call backs on the B.O.M.'s we been loaning out. We didn't find any teachable people but the attitude of the people on that street changed from antagonistic to friendly. At least we left the street with a good impression of the church. Tonight we worked with the Workington Elders, Anderson & Hendrickson. They may be baptizing soon. I hope so.

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Friday January 24, 1969

This day was spent by working in the Whitehaven Elders' area with Elders: Crawford and Sullivan. They haven't been doing as good as they could have and are feeling guilty because of it. I want to see them happy and feeling like they're accomplishing something. Also tonight, we taught Paul a 2nd discussion. I couldn't tell how he reacted. He's a hard one to figure out.

Saturday January 25, 1969

Today Elder Squire and I took care of some essentials, such as bathing, shopping, laundry, etc. We finished by noon. Then we made some call backs. The remainder of the day we spent tracting. Erica told us that she can't be baptized because the girl who was to take her place developed a case of appendicitis. I'd like to see her baptized as soon as possible.

Sunday January 26, 1969

Besides church, about all we did was fill out reports. It took me a while to figure some of them out, but I think I understand them now.

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Monday January 27, 1969

Left bright and early this morning for Workington, at 7:30. It was dark almost all the way down there. Elder Hendrickson and Elder Anderson had us tract all day. It was enjoyable. Then we slept over night at the Workington branch building. I certainly enjoyed working with these brethren today.

Tuesday January 28, 1969

It's becoming increasingly difficult to write an entry for every day. I've sometimes got to write entries in for 2 or 3 days. It's nothing of importance, anyway. We worked, tracting, all day with the Whitehaven Elders today. I hope our visits help them. Elder Squire still had the keys to the Workington Chapel, so on the way home we gave them to the other Elders.

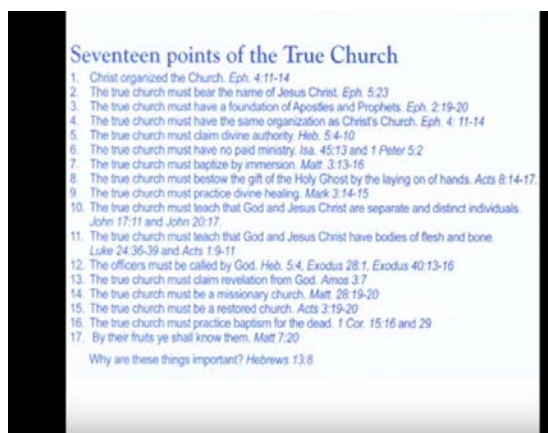
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Thursday January 30, 1969

President Robison came down from Harrogate with the assistants for a District Meeting with us. Sister Turkington talked to the President a few minutes, then he began interviewing us. I wish it were possible to have a weekly interview with him. He's such a great man!

Friday January 31, 1969

This morning we tracted, then we went and played Erica the tape "My Conversion" by Floyd Weston. She seemed to like it. Recently she's lost a lot of her desire for baptism, but we've encouraged, begged, her to read more of the B.O.M. She readily accepted because so wants to have a strong desire to be baptized.



Saturday February 1, 1969

The main thing that happened today was the baptismal service this evening. Four people were baptized. Two were from Workington and two were from Carlisle. Two were converts and two were member baptisms. Olive Rankine (20 yrs. old), of Carlisle, was one of those people baptized. Also baptized were Christine Welsh, Carlisle and 8 yrs. old and an 8 yr. old boy from Workington & a 13 yr. old girl from there. It was a wonderful evening.

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Sunday February 2, 1969

We had a good Sunday School and Fast Meeting today. I enjoyed the meetings very much. The investigator there was pretty hard headed about accepting baptism for the dead, but Erica finally accepted it. We had to ride the bus to church. IT was so cold the lock on our car door froze and we couldn't open it.

Monday February 3, 1969

Elder Hendrickson showed us some of the slides he has taken on his mission. He leaves the mission field on Thursday. Then we played billiards, after we ate lunch. All in all it was a good preparation day. Tonight we washed out car while it snowed; we also attended the Sports Night at the church. There was an investigator there.

Tuesday February 4, 1969

We had a bath this morning, then we went over to Erica's and studied the Book of Mormon with her. Then we looked up some referrals, whom we couldn't find and tracted the rest of the day and night.

Wednesday February 5, 1969

This morning we studied with Erica. We studied the Book of Mormon for an hour and a half. Then we tracted using the survey approach. I'm convinced this approach will open many doors to the missionaries and lead to many baptisms. In fact, we tracted all the day using it. We did briefly attend a Branch Presidency meeting and arrange for Erica's baptism on Sunday.

Thursday February 6, 1969

Elder Squire and I drove to Whitehaven this morning and worked all day with the Whitehaven team. They're both good Elders, Sullivan & Crawford, but they need to get enthused about the work. That's their only drawback. We slept overnight with them at their digs. Between us, we distributed 7 B.O.M's today. Elder Sullivan and I drove out to Seascale and the surrounding area calling on referrals. We met one particularly receptive gentleman, the last we called on, who invited us right into his caravan and borrowed a B.O.M. He's teachable. I hope he is taught.



Our Missionary Car – Entering
Whitehaven



The City of Whitehaven



A Whitehaven Church

Friday February 7, 1969

When we woke up this morning there was about an inch of snow on the ground. It snowed most of the day. It was tough walking in Tufs. The soles are as slick as glass on the snow. I fell twice; once in front of a police station. We stayed until about 6:30. Elder Jensen, the new Branch President is a good hard worker. I expect him to turn out fine. The traveling Elders were due to work with us tonight, but they got snowbound. Anyway, they spent the night with us.



Note: "Tufs" were rubber shoe covers to protect our leather shoes from rain and snow. They were quite slippery in the snow.

Saturday February 8, 1969

The Traveling Elders tracted with us this morning. Elder Porter and Elder Gray showed us how to be more effective in distributing books. It helped us out a lot. We placed 7 books this morning. This afternoon we shopped, bathed, and took care of the car. The V.W. is ready for a 30,000 mile check-up. Tonight we went tracting. We only distributed one tonight but it was at a good home. The weather here is continuing to be bitterly cold. Our breath even turns to ice when we breathe on the inside of the car windshield. We began fasting with Erica today to prepare her for baptism. (P.S. Elder Squire & I distributed 24 B.O.M's this week).

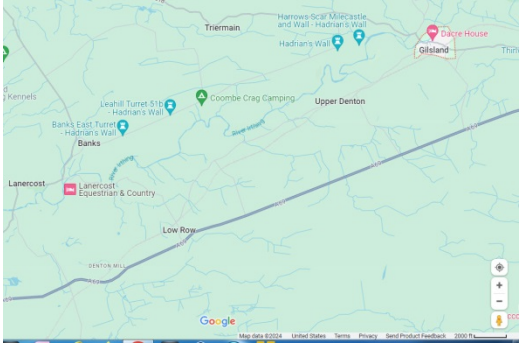


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Sunday February 9, 1969

This has been a wonderful day to remember. It started off with a priesthood meeting, then it was Sunday School. The investigators class went well. The lesson was on Temples. Then this afternoon we called by one some people who borrowed a B.O.M. They weren't home but we'll return. Then we went over to Erica's and read out of the "Articles of Faith" by Talmage for an hour. Reading these words, couple with our fast produced a soul inspiring meeting. An hour later was Sacrament meeting. Erica didn't show up to it. After it was over we drove over to her house to see if anything had happened. It hadn't. She was just late. The baptismal service was beautifully simple and simply beautiful. I baptized her and confirmed her a member of the church. After that we drove brother Britton to catch his bus. It was two miles away and only 5 minutes to get there, so it was pretty exciting driving over to it. Elder Squire and I returned to the chapel and meditated for a few minutes then came home.

Monday February 10, 1969

Today will be a day to remember for quite some time. We rode the bus, as a district, out to Gislands. It was a half hour walk on the roads to Hadrian's Wall, a wall the Romans built. We decided to walk back to Gislands via wall instead of the road. We went through hill and vale and came to an impassable river, so we had to use the road anyway. IT was freezing cold today. There was about 3 or 4 inches of snow on the ground. It was a lot of fun. (My check arrived today, also). While waiting for the bus to town, we had a snowball fight with 6 little kids. It was fun.

 A Google Map of the Gisland area in Lancashire, England. The map shows Hadrian's Wall running diagonally from the top right towards the bottom left. Key locations marked include Harrows Scar, Gisland, and various points of interest like Leathill Turret and Coombe Crag. The map is credited to Google and dated 2024.	 A photograph of a long, straight section of Hadrian's Wall. The wall is constructed from large, grey stone blocks and stretches into the distance under a cloudy sky. The surrounding landscape is a green field.	 Two photographs of the Harrows Scar site. The top photo shows a large, rectangular stone foundation or wall section in a grassy field. The bottom photo shows a more complex arrangement of stone ruins, including walls and foundations, surrounded by trees and a fence.
Map of the Gisland Area	Harrows Scar Site	Harrows Scar Site

		
East Turret Site	East Turret Site	East Turret Site

		
Leahill Turret Site	Leahill Turret Site	Leahill Turret Site

Tuesday February 11, 1969

We spent the day by taking a bath and then calling back on all the people we loaned Books of Mormon to. We got all be 2 or 3 of them back. So we're going to call back again on those people. We taught a Mr. & Mrs. Richardson a 2nd discussion. They invited us back for a 1st. She's going to have a baby in about 2 weeks time. Both of them seem interested. He has a lot of questions about life after death that I would have loved to told him the answers to but he wasn't quite ready. He will be soon though.

Wednesday February 12, 1969

Elder Squire and I tracted most of the day. We only loaned 4 B.O.M's and we called back on several of the people we had loaned books to but they weren't interested in reading it. We discussed the Book of Mormon with Erica Bone from 11:00 to 12:00. We're going through a study guide at the moment so we can fellowship her along. This evening was spent at a Mr. Kirkum's house. We played him "Profile of a Prophet". It didn't sink in. He's thicker than I thought.

Thursday February 13, 1969

This morning we taught a 2nd discussion to a 65 yr. old lady. She's a pretty nice lady. She wants to read the BOM, but I don't know how much more she wants to know. This afternoon and evening we worked with the Whitehaven Elders. All we did was teach. We taught, between the 2 teams, 2 1st discussions and 3 second discussions. I was fortunate enough to be a part of both 1sts and 2 of the 3 2nds. Today the Elders presented a 4th discussion to me as part of the teaching tournament we're now in. Then we went to Workington and slept the night in the chapel, or hall, there.

Friday February 14, 1969

This morning there was snow all over the ground, about an inch's worth. As we tracted along, I slid from house to house almost. Most of the driveways were very steep. One side of the street went up from the sidewalk, the other half went down from it. We looked for a new place for elder Jensen & Anderson to live, but no place turned up.

Saturday February 15, 1969

Today was Mary's birthday. Hope she had a good time. There's still snow on the ground all over. It's also still bitterly cold. We taught a 2nd this afternoon and tonight we taught Paul a 3rd discussion and played him "Lehi's Raft", an excellent talk.

Sunday February 16, 1969

According to the news reports, last night was the coldest night in 200 years. Our plumbing is all frozen up. The bathroom facilities are completely frozen. We had to walk to a P.C. about 200 yards away. In order to shave, we have to use the kitchen sink. Church was good today. Not too many people came though (about 20-25), just below average. Afterwards, Jean Harrison gave us an omelet at her house. For desert we had trifle. It was delicious.

Monday February 17, 1969

For Preparation Day we had a district meeting in Workington. I briefly talked on Daniel chapter 2. Then we played billiards for a couple of hours. We then went to Walt Disney moving "Black Beards Ghost". It was relaxing and enjoyable. Elder Squire and I stopped at the Carlisle Chapel for the last few minutes of Sports Night. It's been another good day. It's hard to believe 13 months have come and gone.

Tuesday February 18, 1969

Today was a bone chilling, knee knocking day. There's now sign of the cold and snow going away. It's not too bad, though. We bundle up nice and warm. Tracting wasn't too successful, but we did teach two 2nd discussions, one to a referral from Elder McDonald, and the other to a lady we surveyed up and gave a B.O.M. Tonight we taught a 1st discussion to Mr. & Mrs. Richardson. He won't let us come back. His wife is having a baby in two or three weeks and she's going to go visit her mother. The discussion went well, though. He prayed for us, according to how we had taught him. It was sincere and honest. They already had a B.O.M. that we loaned them, so we autographed it and gave it to them. (He's about 24 & her 23 years old).

Wednesday February 19, 1969

It was freezing cold again today. I felt so cold that I wore some Levi's under my suit trousers. The plumbing's still frozen up and so we walked down to the P.C. about 6:00 this morning. Tracting was fairly fruitful today. We loaned 4 B.O.M.'s and met some very good people. We found out that the branch President, brother Ramsbottom, collapsed at work on Monday. He's home recuperating now. We'll go see him tomorrow.

Thursday February 20, 1969

We tracted today. It was so cold and windy, it seemed like we were going to freeze. But, we survived. We taught a 2nd discussion to a lady this afternoon, but she wouldn't accept the B.O.M. She was very nice though. We stopped by President Ramsbottom's and he cheered up a bit. He's got to take it easy for a while, but he'll be o.k. Well, tomorrow we're going to go to the town John Paul Jones made famous: Whitehaven. Also today we took a bath.



From the July 1969 Millennial Star

Friday February 21, 1969

Elder Squire drove the car down to Whitehaven. I worked with Elder Crawford in the morning. We sold one B.O.M. and taught a discussion. Elder Sullivan and I worked together in the afternoon and evening. Between both teams, we distributed a dozen (12) Books. We even sold a couple. We also taught a couple of 2nd discussions and a 1st discussion. (Elder Sullivan and I). All in all, it was a successful day. Elders Squire & Crawford taught "Conversion of a Methodist Minister" to a very good investigator. We left Whitehaven about 10:30 p.m. and we drove to Workington and slept in the chapel there.

Saturday February 22, 1969

Elder Anderson and I tracted together while Elders Squire & Jensen tracted. (They used to be companions.) Elder Anderson wasn't feeling too well, so I stayed in with him and they went out and did some member work. Elder Jensen is the branch president of Workington. Elder Squire and I left at 7:00 and drove to Fletcher Town and looked for a referral, a free Book of Mormon. It took a while, but we found him. We'll call back next time we're through, or about a week. P.S. Elder Jensen cooked some friend chicken for tea.

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Sunday February 23

This morning Elder Squire and I made phone-in's to Harrogate. Then we went to priesthood and Sunday School. After lunch we called back on a B.O.M. loan but were packed in. On the way home we had a look around Carlisle Cathedral, it's about a 5 minute walk from our flat. We spent the evening after Sacrament at President Ramsbottom's. I gave the concluding talk in Sacrament. It was mainly on "Unity".

Monday February 24, 1969

Preparation day was very good; we toured a poultry and pig farm. It took nearly the whole afternoon. The man that owns it showed us around. He also showed us some antiques he has. He owns about 3 or 4 music boxes that are over 100 yrs. old. Two of them play metal discs. One of them is a penny box like the cowboys used in the saloons. It was fascinating. The music was beautiful. Elder Squire switched with Elder Crawford from Whitehaven for a few days. So Elder Crawford and I will be working together until Friday. We were scheduled to teach Barbara and Paul a 4th discussion, but they didn't turn up at the church like they should have.

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Tuesday February 25, 1969

Elder Crawford and I in tracting this morning placed two copies of the B.O.M. and loaned 3 more this afternoon. We tracted a little village name Cumwhinton. It has all of 100 houses in it. We enjoyed it today. The country scenery was nice and the people were very friendly. We stopped by President Ramsbottom's house about 9:20 to see how he was feeling. We chatted for half an hour and then came home. It was good.

Wednesday February 26, 1969

This morning we taught two 2nd discussions. Mrs. Newland was interested, and she gave us a return appointment, but our other app't bought a book but wasn't interested. Elder Crawford and I tracted the rest of the day. At 8:30 tonight a group of seven girls, approximate ages 16-18, invited us to survey them. They turned out to be members of the Elam, Pentecostal Church. We stayed there from about 8:20 to 9:45. We both testified of the B.O.M. and the church, but it was to no avail. It was faith promoting to hear their version of the gospel though. They're way off track.

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Thursday February 27, 1969

Elder Crawford and I went to some of the outlying villages and tracted in them. We must have chosen the wrong villages. People were negative, because we weren't. We met a gentleman who has had Elders before but disagreed on some things. He invited us back. We taught four 2nd discussions today. Boy, were we busy. It felt good to teach so many in one day.

Friday February 28, 1969

I thought yesterday was busy. Today Elder Sullivan and I taught 4 more discussions in Whitehaven. It's the first time on my mission that I've had 10 discussions in a week. Their area is doing good. Even though they haven't much experience they're achieving remarkably well. We slept overnight here tonight.

Saturday March 1, 1969

We went to Workington from Whitehaven. Was I surprise when Elder Andersen said he received a transfer. His replacement was Elder Lester; he and I came out together. Today was also the day Elder Jensen moved from Doris's Dirty Book Shop to a brand ...



Elder Lester

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... new flat about a mile away. We helped them move in. Tonight Elder Jensen and I taught a 14 yr. old girl a 1st discussion. She's a good girl. It's good to see Elder Lester again. We've got a good district.

Sunday March 2, 1969

Sunday School & Fast & testimony meetings were very enjoyable today. We didn't have any investigators turn up, but the spirit was good. Afterwards we went to Garlands hospital to see Sister Riddle, but she was out for the day. Then we came home and did reports. Tonight we visited with Barbara and Paul for about an hour and had a good discussion on , of all things, religion.



Note: Garlands Hospital was a mental health facility at Carleton, Near Carlisle.

Monday March 3, 1969

This morning Elder Squire and I took a bath and did some shopping. Then, we tracted the rest of the afternoon. We loaned about 3 copies of the B .O.M. Tonight we taught Paul & Barbara a 4th discussion. He accepted it real well. After it, we spent about an hour with him and Barbara at the Sports night at the chapel.

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Tuesday March 4, 1969

In tracting and making CB's (call backs) we sold 2 BOMs and taught 2 2nd discussions. We're starting to learn to be effective in loaning people a B.O.M. It helps out a great deal. Tonight we discussed with a man, Mr. Taylor, about his reasons for not joining the church. A few years ago he was taught by the Elders but wasn't baptized. He invited us back tonight to discuss it with him. He finally admitted that when he prayed he hadn't received an answer; so we challenged him to fasting and prayer. He didn't invite us back, but I think he was impressed.

Wednesday March 5, 1969

This morning we drove over to Whitehaven and worked with the Elders there. I met a lady they're teaching. She's solidly converted, but her husband is giving her static. All we need to do is convert him. She is golden though. We took Elders Crawford & Sullivan with us over to Workington and worked with them. Then all three teams came back here to our flat and slept overnight. We all slept on the kitchen and dining room floor. It was pretty good.

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Thursday March 6, 1969

We all got up at 6:00, as usual, and I scrambled some eggs for everyone. We left Carlisle for Sunderland at 7:00. We arrived in Sunderland for Zone Conference at 9:30. It's about 85 miles to there. Elder John Longden was the visiting authority. He interviewed each elder. The conference talks were very good. I enjoyed them tremendously. Afterwards, I drove the Elders back to Workington and that's about the end of the day.

Friday March 7, 1969

This morning we marked B.O.M's by a marking guide we developed. Then Elder Squire and I tracted all day. It wasn't fruitful today. Few were home and even fewer were interested in talking. Tonight we talked to Barbara & Paul and two of their J.W. friends, Derek and Pauline. First we played the tape "The Spirit that Leads to Truth" by Richard L. Evans. We spend 2 hours on a general discussion of the "Foundation of the True Church." Together, Elder Squire and I shot him down, be he wouldn't get excited or even self-defensive. It was pretty fruitless really.

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Saturday March 8, 1969

This morning we washed clothes, took a bath and did some shopping for food. My monthly check came, so I cashed it. I was down to my last 2/6 (or about 30 cents). Elder Squire and I tracted in the afternoon. We loaned out 6 books. Tonight we loaned one other book to a man who said he was a member of the Sweden Borgan church. It's been a good week, except I don't know where all the time has gone this week.

Sunday March 9, 1969

The investigators class was good today. Arthur Wheatley brought a friend of his, named Jim. This afternoon we had imported canned chicken, from Dallas, Texas, for lunch. It was good. After Sacrament meeting, we spent the rest of the time talking to Jean Harrison and her husband. Jim was also at Sacrament meeting.

Monday March 10, 1969

This morning we taught a 1st discussion to a woman and her friend – they were both very dense. They weren't really able to comprehend what we...

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...said. This afternoon the district, including Elder Squire and I, took the written test for the final phase of the teaching tournament. After that we all went to a movie (Elvis Presley – Stay Away Joe). Tonight we played Hadrian's Army Camp in basketball. We won 88 – 49. We really enjoyed it. The Traveling Elders came and stayed here overnight. The rest of the district missed their train, so they stayed overnight also.

Tuesday March 11, 1969

This morning Elders Sullivan, Lester, Crawford, & Jensen left at about 6:30. They either took a bus or train. I think the bus. The Traveling Elders are Despain & Snow. Elder Despain was a companion of mine (in Urmston, Manchester). It was good to see him again. We taught some 2nd discussions (2) and have positive return appointments. Elders Despain & Snow took Squire's keys with them back to our flat to get their gear (this was at noon) and in the meantime, I locked my keys inside the V.W. so we had to take a bus back to town. It was kind of funny.

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Wednesday March 12, 1969

We got out of bed at 5:00 this morning and were on the road to Harrogate at 5:45 for a D.L.'s conference. We arrived at 9:00. It was a pretty good drive. It snowed part of the way though. The morning session included a talk by Sister Spender W. Kimball and an hour talk by Elder Kimball –(it seemed about 5 minutes long) and testimonies by each of the District Leaders. For lunch, Sister Stepp cooked a big pot of spaghetti and ground beef. She also baked 2 huge cherry pies. Everyone filled themselves full and there was still some left over. The entire afternoon (11:00 – 4:30) was Elder Kimball speaking to us. He answered questions and gave us a wonderful talk. Afterwards we picked up our supplies at the commissary and left for home. We arrived home at 7:00. We started teaching a 2nd discussion at 7:30 to Mr. & Mrs. Swain. They're interested so we're going to give them a 1st discussion next week. They're very good people. Mr. Swain's in the military and very nice.



On the road to Harrogate, early morning.

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Thursday March 13, 1969

We drove down to Workington to work with Elder Lester & Jensen. We tracted all day. The people were pretty friendly. I don't know how many books we loaned, but it was a good day. They had some appointments tonight, but got packed in. (P.S. – Boy was it cold today.)

Friday March 14, 1969

It's still cold, in fact there's a bit of snow. Elder Crawford was transferred and Elder Philips took his place. Elder Phillips was once in the Cleethorpes Grimsby area at the same time as I was (the Scunthorpe District). He and I tracted this morning for half an hour and loaned out 2 BOMs. Then we marked BOMs for loaning out this afternoon. I worked with Elder Sullivan then, but no one was receptive. We came back up through Cockermouth. It's beautiful. Tonight we had another discussion with Paul & Barbara & her J.W. friends. We came out well on top. We'll have more to say next week. We'll talk about the Book of Mormon with Paul & Barbara and Derek & Pauline.

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Saturday March 15, 1969

This morning we took a bath and shopped for food. Then this evening and afternoon we tracted. We're tracting in a military estate this week. The people are very friendly and out of 70 or so houses, we've loaned 20 copies of the Book of Mormon. I wish every place was like this area. If it were we'd have no trouble making our mission goal of 1000 baptisms this year.

Sunday March 16, 1969

Today was the Lakes District Conference. It was held here in Carlisle. About 100 people turned up. President Robison presided over it. We attended the first session, but the 2nd session we missed because we had an appointment with Mr. & Mrs. Cambell to play them "Lehi's Raft". Mr. Cambell enjoyed it, but Mrs. Cambell really kicked against the pricks. She's a converted Catholic and that's all she would talk about. Her mind was completely closed. Tonight we made arrangements with a couple of the members to go out with us on Tuesday and Wednesday.

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Monday March 17, 1969

It seems hard to believe, but another whole month has come and gone. Today marks the completion of 14 months. We had a free preparation day. Everyone stayed in their own area. We wrote letters, cleaned up, shopped, and took in a matinee movie. Then tonight we did a couple hours of "tracting" by marking enough BOMs to last for most of the week. Today was a good day. By the way, it started snowing this evening. I'm not surprised. The weather's been bitterly cold the past few days.

Tuesday March 18, 1969

This morning and afternoon we tracted. The temperature was very cold. There was a strong wind this afternoon, which made it seem colder, but after all's said and done, it wasn't too bad. Tonight we went teaching & tracting with Brother James and Elder Mantey. Elder Squire & Brother James went to an appointment for a film strip, but the wife was sick. They were given a return appointment. They tracted the rest of the evening. Elder Mantey and I tracted until 8:30 and called on another loaned BOM but got packed. We called on one at the Tinsley's at 8:00. These people were very good and desire to have us come back. We will.

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Wednesday March 19, 1969

Elder Squire and I tracted today. We loaned a few more BOMs out. Tonight we worked with Brother James and Brother Mantey (2 of the local members). Elder Squire taught a 2nd discussion and loaned 3 BOMs tonight (working with Brother Mantey). Brother James and I tracted and loaned 2 BOMs. Afterwards Sister James gave us all Caro and Salmon sandwiches.

Thursday March 20, 1969

We went to Workington to work with Elders Jensen & Lester, but they're both sick with colds. We did a bit of shopping for them and called back on a few people in their area. At noon we drove to Whitehaven to see Elders Sullivan & Phillips. They're not feeling too well either. I tracted with Elder Sullivan and Elder Squire went with Elder Phillips. Phillips felt so bad he stayed in tonight and Elder Sullivan & I visited the Aspanall's, a new family, and read from the Book of Mormon. After that we came home and went to bed. I've enjoyed today, even if the district is sick.



Elder Bair



Elder Lester

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Friday March 21, 1969

This has been quite a day. We tracted all day. We only loaned one BOM and sole on BOM. The reason being that the people in our new tracting area aren't friendly. Tonight we had another discussion with Paul, Barbara, Derek & Pauline. IT was fruitless. Derek & Pauline are thoroughly saturated with J.W. doctrine. We couldn't get a reasonable discussion with them. They said such dumb things as "you gain knowledge in order to gain faith". Knowledge meaning Bible studies. We may have pointed out a few things for Barbara & Paul to think about though. I hope so.

Saturday March 22, 1969

Today we took a bath and did some shopping for food. We tracted in the afternoon without much success. We loaned 2 BOMs. Tonight we looked for referrals until 9:00 then washed the car at the church. No one phone in tonight, however. Jean Harrison did fix us a nice supper to go to bed on (Pepperoni sandwiches).

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Sunday March 23, 1969

We showed the filmstrip "What Happened to the Church of Jesus Christ?" in Sunday School this morning. It was well received. This afternoon we had a Spanish omelet at Sister Harrison's. Tonight we gave talks in Workington. I spoke on unity & loyalty and Elder Squire spoke on the scriptures. Elder Lester was the concluding speaker. Elder Lester & I visited sister Graham's tonight. She gave us beans on toast, milk, & lemon meringue pie. It was delicious.

Monday March 24, 1969

For Preparation Day today the district went to Maryport, in the Workington Elders area, and dug up a garden for Sister Graham. Sullivan, Phillips, Squire & Jensen did that and Lester and I stayed in Workington and applied (painted) a coat of sealer to the ceiling of the chapel. They're going to paint it next week, but the pores in the material had to be closed up first. Tonight we taught a 2nd discussion. The people bought the BOM and are interested in the church, but not to the extent of following up on it.

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Tuesday March 25, 1969

This morning we tracted for a little while and made some call backs. We were going to give sister Bone a fellowshiping discussion, but she was out. Then we took a bath at lunch time (at the good 'ol public baths). This afternoon we taught 2 2nd discussions. Mrs. Rasmussen wants to know more. She's interested in the scientific side of the book. I received two letters from home! Mother & Dad sent me \$50 extra. I'm glad they did. We taught another 2nd discussion to Mr. & Mrs. McPhee. They were nice & bought the BOM. Afterwards, they gave us crab sandwiches and cookies. We sold 2 BOMs today.

Wednesday March 26, 1969

This has been an interesting day. We took the V.W. to Lightfoots Garage for a 1500 mile checkup. Meanwhile we did a bit of shopping down town. By 9:30 it was read so we went tracting until noon. We only loaned 1 Book of Mormon; it wasn't to a man who seemed that good. Then we taught another 2nd this afternoon to Mrs. Jameson, who wants us to return. We spent the remainder of the afternoon talking to sister Turkington (a non-member). Tonight we taught a 2nd discussion to Peter & Sandra, both about 18 or 19 yrs. old. They said they'd come to church on Sunday night. I think they will.

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Thursday March 27, 1969

Elder Squire and I went to Workington this morning. I drove. Elder Lester and I taught a 1st discussion to a lady. She's not very spiritual. Spiritual meanings escape her. The afternoon was spent by Elder Jensen & I in making call backs and tracting. Jensen & I called on inactive members tonight. One of them asked for excommunication. The other, who used to be Branch President, says he works on Sunday and can't come. Elder Lester & Squire tracted all day, but didn't run into anybody very golden. We slept overnight with them.

Friday March 28, 1969

This morning we went to Whitehaven. I tracted with Elder Sullivan this morning. He's just finished a brand new flip chart. He's done a great job on it. He and I met some good people. (We loaned 3 BOMs.). Elder Squire's & Phillips also tracted and loaned 2 BOMs. This afternoon everyone tracted. I went with Elder Phillips. We met a couple of kooky people. We sold a BOM, for 2/6 – special pensioners price – to a pair of old ladies. One can't read. After we sold it to them one of their friends came in. He looked and acted like Jerry Lewis. He'd spent some time in America in New York on 42nd street at Jack Dempsey's bar. He bought a BOM also (for 2/6)....

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...(continued)

All three of them were about 60 yrs. old. This other old man we met had quit his job because his wife was nearly blind and no one would take care of her except him. Then, tonight in Carlisle, we tracted but didn't distribute any Books of Mormon.

Saturday March 29, 1969

We had a bath and did some grocery shopping this morning. This afternoon we tracted, but few people were home. There was a football game on today, and the stadium is in our tracting area. We only loaned 2 Books all afternoon. Tonight Elder Squire and I taught Mr. Steele, an army P.T. (physical training) instructor. He couldn't understand it very well. He's catholic. By the time we finished giving it him (or part of it, I mean) it was 8:15. So, we made some call-backs and went to the church at 9:00. We each practiced on the piano for half an hour. At 10:00 we crossed the street and went to Sister Harrison's to wait for phone ins. Elders Lester & Jensen phone in, but Sullivan and Phillips didn't make it. Sister Harrison baked us an English pizza. It was good (We're going to have dinner with the Harrison's tomorrow). That's the finish of today.

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Sunday March 30, 1969

After Sunday School today, we went to Mr. Harrison's to record some music from his music boxes. He was busy, but he said would could come back about 4:00. So, we did. He has music boxes that were used in saloons in the 1800s. The music is pleasant. Tonight, at Sacrament Meeting, Brother & Sister Harrison gave us an Easter Dinner a week early.



He had several music boxes, large and small, similar to these.

Source:

https://www.pinterest.com/search/pins/?q=Antique%20music%20box&rs=srs&b_id=BA7ZHDFE5MXhAAAAAAA AAD0k5XeBt1dEI7lgbz6CciOApB-DHudj71Aza-EbglhfgClFrC39BIB7cUf0r9SRw&source_id=gaE0a5x0

Monday March 31, 1969

Today was a work day. We made a couple of call backs this morning and got a hair cut. This afternoon we played Mrs. Rasmussen the tape "Lehi's raft". She is very interested and has an open mind, but they're going to Belgium soon. She wants to know more. Tonight we showed a film strip to an inactive part member family, the Wrights. We showed "What is a Mormon?". The husband's a member, but she isn't. Both are only 20 yrs. old. Sister Wright wants to know more and she's looking.

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Tuesday April 1, 1969

This morning we called by on a loaned Book of Mormon and got it back. Then we tracted the rest of the morning and afternoon. We met a Scottish woman, about 30 yrs. old, who said when she was a girl she attended the LDS church in Aberdeen. Her father forbade her to go; so she went. We're going to call back next week. Tonight we called on another BOM loan, but didn't get any response. We looked up 3 referrals tonight. We have call backs for all of them. It's been a good day.

Wednesday April 2, 1969

We took a bath this morning and tracted for a couple of hours. Then this afternoon we called on some appointments but they weren't home. We also tracted for a while. We loaned 2 BOMs. Tonight we met with Paul at Garlands hospital and taught him a 5th discussion. He understood it, but I don't think he believed it. After we presented it to him he pulled out two J.W. magazines – the "Awake". Then he proceeded to ask all sorts of dumb questions. Paul's spirituality is nil. He smoked all the way through it. The J.W.'s have really messed up his thinking. It's too bad.

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Thursday April 3, 1969

This morning we went to Workington. They have two member boys staying with them for a week. We split up with them. I tracted with Peter. (Some old man gave him 6pence while we were tracting). Elder Lester tracted with John and Elders Squire & Jensen went together. This afternoon Elder Jensen and I called on an inactive member family. They've turned to being hard-core Jehovah Witnesses. They signed the excommunication papers. They were nice, but really stuck in their pride. Elder Sullivan, in Whitehaven, and I sat in on the family home evening of the Aspinolls. Elder Sullivan's transferring out on Saturday. It's been good to have him in the district. He's a fine Elder. I hope he goes a long way.

Friday April 4, 1969

Preparation Day. Elder Squire recorded a tape of music this morning. He copied a tape of Elder Jensen's. It took him until about 3:00 this afternoon. Meanwhile, I wrote letters and studied a bit. Then we called on an appointment, but she wasn't home. We would've played tennis, but there were no tennis courts with nets on them. We taught Sister Wright a 1st discussion tonight. She accepted the challenge. We'll return to teach her next week.

Saturday April 5, 1969

The weather has continued to be perfect. It makes a pleasant change. There were about 10 million people driving through Carlisle today. The Easter weekend is upon us. It was nearly impossible to park or shop. First we took a bath & shopped. By then it was lunch time. Afterwards we tracted, but very few people were home. Tonight we looked up some referrals. One, who is a good person, is the son of a vicar. The Vicar got all heated up and told us to depart forthwith. He was very agitated. Never wants to see us again. His was the usual C of E reaction for vicars and members. It's too bad he feels that way. We don't.

Sunday April 6, 1969

Easter was pretty inactive this year for us. We visited some members. The scheduled bus trip to Sunderland to hear General Conference was called off. So we didn't go. We did, however, listen to the General Authorities on tape by listening to several talks.

Monday April 7, 1969

For preparation day we recorded a little music, played miniature golf, went to a movie and took in a carnival. It's been quite a day.

Tuesday April 8, 1969

We tracted all day today, except for an hour or so where we called on a couple of referrals and talked to Sister Wright. The weather is continuing to be perfect. There's no clouds and the temperature is very warm. We loaned 2 BOMs and sold 1 today. We met some very interesting people in our tracting today. One old let we met is searching for something; she's still intelligent. Her mind is still learning. We loaned her a B.O.M. I've really enjoyed today.

Wednesday April 9, 1969

The good weather ended today. It's been raining all day. Actually, it wasn't bad until this evening that it became too bad. Tonight we called on a BOM referral, but he's moved to Scotland. We visited Brother (a non-member) and Sister (a member) Taylor. They live out in Aspatria, about 25 miles from here, but on the same street as the referral we had. We took a bus instead of driving. I've enjoyed today very much.

Thursday April 10, 1969

Today with worked with Elder Jensen & Elder Lester. I tracted morning and afternoon with Elder Lester. We didn't have a whole lot of success. Tonight Elder Jensen and I visited inactive members. It rained a bit today. It's been a good day. I've enjoyed it very much.

Friday April 11, 1969

Today we met Elder Bair, from Indiana. He's Elder Sullivan's replacement. Elder Bair (Byer) is about 5'8" 180 lbs. He and I called on a referral this morning, but they weren't home. This afternoon I worked with Elder Phillips. Elder Bair tracted with Elder Squire. Phillips and I made call backs and then traveled around Whitehaven looking for a flat. We finally found one. They're going to go see it tomorrow. Tonight Elder Squire and I tracted for a bit in Carlisle, then taught the Wrights a 2 ½ hr. 2nd discussion. IT was an enjoyable evening. Sister Wright asked hundreds of questions. It took a while to answer them.



Elder Bair

Saturday April 12, 1969

This has been a wonderful day. After taking baths & shopping in the morning, we tracted for about an hour in the afternoon and loaned a BOM to an interested man. Then we taught a 2nd to Mrs. Thompson. She was to hear the 1st discussion & to read the BOM. Then we taught Mrs. Masters a 2nd discussion. She's not as keen, but she is interested. Tonight we tried to teach Mrs. Carr (a widow) a 2nd but she was so interested in the church and gospel we couldn't teach. She wants to learn and wants to share in the joy of the gospel.

Sunday April 13, 1969

This morning in Sunday School I gave a 2 ½ minute talk on honesty. Several young adults, average age about 20, are home from school for the Easter Holidays. They add quite a number to the congregation (roughly 10). Tonight, Sister Wright came to Sacrament Meeting. She said "it was different". It also surprised her that we don't have a collection. I think she liked it.

Monday April 14, 1969

We phoned the Whitehaven Elders this morning to get the reports from them and they said they wanted to have a "free" day because they & the Workington Elders, were both broke. So we stayed here and wrote letters and went to an afternoon movie. It was "Hannibal Brooks". I very much enjoyed it. It was very relaxing. Tonight we made out reports and attended Sports Nights at the church for about a half hour.

Tuesday April 15, 1969

Today was a pretty unusual tracting day. We met a lady, who invited us in, had 3 Books of Mormon & didn't

Even know what the Book talked about. She bought them from 2 lady missionaries 3 or 4 years ago. (One was American, the other English). The English girl was going to immigrate though). A few doors later we met a lady with spino bifera (abnormal sized head) child. The girl is paralyzed from the waist down, but is very intelligent. She's 4 yrs. old, but has the capacity of a 7 yrs. old girl. Next door to her lived an epileptic. Then we went and saw Mr. Davidson. He wants to hear the 1st discussion, but was too tied up today. Tonight we taught Mrs. Carr and her son, who is 20, a 1st discussion. It went pretty good. They've promised to attend church. Mrs. Carr gave us an orange drink, biscuits, candy and ice cream. We couldn't refuse. They've treated us very nicely.

Wednesday April 16, 1969

We tracted this morning, but most people weren't home. Then at noon we paid a visit to the dentist. I've got to have 3 or 4 fillings; Elder Squire needs a couple also. This afternoon we called back on a few people and tracted more. Tonight we taught, or tried to teach, Barbara & Paul. They've decided to be Jehovah's Witnesses instead of Mormons. It's too bad. Anyway they want us to attend one of their services so we can see what it's like. Their whole trouble is they're spiritually dead.

Thursday April 17, 1969

Today we went to Whitehaven and worked with the Elders there. I tracted with Elder Phillips in the morning. Then in the afternoon Elder Bair and I drove to Seascale to see a referral. The man's about 25 or 30. He works in Canada, but is home visiting for a while. In February, he went through Temple Square. He really enjoyed it. He even bought a BOM is reading. However, Mr. Green says he's a confirmed C of E member. He invited us back to hear a tape. Tonight we looked up a referral (Elder Squire & I) here in Carlisle. It turned out they had returned to Scotland. However, the lady they stayed with bought a BOM and has invited us back to teach. Mrs. Williamson is pretty good. Tonight about 11:00 Elder Lester and Elder Jensen showed up and needed a place to sleep. So we put them up.

Friday April 18, 1969

Elder Squire and I tracted this morning and afternoon. It wasn't very fruitful. We stopped by Brother and Sister Wright's to teach them a 3rd discussion on the Word of Wisdom, but had to cancel it. Sister Wright's mother just died and they're leaving tonight to be with the family. We feel pretty sorry about it.

To start things off, at 1:45 this morning I nearly burned the house down. It was cold, so I used the electric blanket, it overheated and the smoke filled the upper rooms entirely. This morning we shopped for food, then taught a 2nd discussion to Mrs. Thirtle. She bought the B.O.M. and invited us back. This afternoon was beautiful, not a cloud to speak of and very warm. Hardly anyone was home. Tonight we taught Mrs. Abercrombie a 2nd, but mostly talked to her and discussed various questions that have troubled her. She wants to investigate. We also taught Mrs. Evans a bit about the church this afternoon. Today was her daughter's birthday (6 yrs. old). She also is serious about learning more. This has been a grand day.

Sunday April 20, 1969

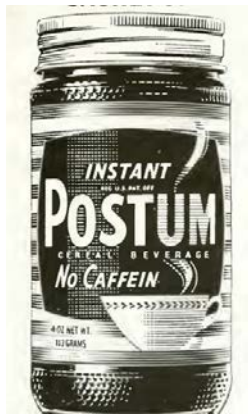
After Sunday School & Priesthood today, we went to see the cousin of a member. Her 26 yr. old son was killed in a train accident a couple of days ago. We bore to her our testimony of life after death and the resurrection. Then we went to a couple of J.W. meetings in the afternoon. They were very mickey mouse. Paul and Barbara invited us. We attended most of our Sacrament meeting here, then left to go to Workington to a spiritual development meeting at sister Graham's. Elder Lester spoke on inspiration

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Elder Squire spoke on what spirituality is. Then we had testimonies. Afterwards we broke our fast with a delicious meal, with following desserts (trifle; pie & jelly). I've really enjoyed today.

Monday April 21, 1969

This morning we washed and waxed the car over at the church. Then we tracted and made call-backs in the evening. We talked to Mrs. Carr, who is about 55 or so, and she's very interested in the church. (She likes Postum better than tea). I hope we can baptize her. P.S. We made arrangements at the Harrison's for another spiritual development meeting next month.



Tuesday April 22, 1969

This morning it rained cats 'n dogs while we took a bath. We called by Erica Bone's to give her a fellowshipping discussion. She was out. Then we talked to sister Turkington for an hour. We made call-backs and tracted this afternoon. Elder Squire & I taught Mrs. Davidson a very interesting 2nd discussion. She wants to know more, but is going to read it (the BOM) for herself. She is sincere. Tonight we tracted for an hour & a half. We only loaned one BOM today, but we sold 3. I've enjoyed today. We've met just about every personality at the door lately.

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Wednesday April 23, 1969

Elder Squire and I drove down to Whitehaven this afternoon; (this morning we worked with Elders Lester & Jensen in Workington. Lester isn't feeling too well – he stayed in bed. Jensen & I tracted in the morning). Elder Bair and I drove to Seascale to see a man. He's from Canada and is visiting his parents over here. He showed us around for a little while. We had a good talk with him. Tonight (about 9:00) we drove back to Workington and picked up Jensen & Lester. Everyone slept over-night (on the floor) in our flat in Carlisle.

Thursday April 24, 1969

We all ate cereal for breakfast then went over to the chapel at 8:30. President Robison came to interview us and the assistants (Elders Despain & Petersen) gave us some fine talks. It was an uplifting meeting. This afternoon we cleaned up the mess that was left behind. Elder Squire is transferring on Saturday so we had things to do. Tonight we went to Wigton and taught Mrs. Williams a 1st discussion. It took us 3 hours. Mostly we talked about everything but the discussion. She says she'll come out to church. (Wigton is 11 miles from Carlisle). We hope to see her there.

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Friday April 25, 1969

This morning Elder Squire and I tracted. The past few days have been pretty rainy. We loaned 2 BOMs. At noon we each took a bath. Then we went to the dentist. I've got 4 or 5 cavities. Then we made some more call backs. Tonight we gave Mrs. Abercrombie a 1st discussion. She's not sure of her husband's reaction. If she can, she'll come to church on Sunday. She's Scottish, very much so, and a great person. Elder Squire said good-bye to the Stainton's tonight. Everyone in Carlisle really likes him. P.S. Today I broke my first milk bottle while I was tracting.

Saturday April 26, 1969

I cleaned the flat today while Elder Squire packed his bags. He said good-bye to President Ramsbottom at his house. His train left at 10:23. Then my new companion, Elder James D. Wilson, arrived at 12:00. We did the shopping and took care of some dry cleaning. After he unpacked, we went to the church and setup my film strip projector for a film show for some primary children tonight. Tonight Elder Wilson and I taught Sister Carr a 2nd discussion. It helped her out quite a bit. While we waited for phone-in time to roll around, we talked to a couple of Sister Harrison's friends inside the church. They were spiritually uncomprehending though.



Elder James D. Wilson

Sunday April 27, 1969

In Sunday School, I gave a short 2 ½ minute talk. (Elder Wilson blessed sacrament). We studied the 76th section of the D&C for our lesson this morning. This afternoon I prepared a 15 minute talk for Sacrament Meeting. Mrs. Williamson, one of our investigators, came with her 7 yr. old boy. They liked it all right. She says it's pretty different. Steve, her boy, wants to come back. Mrs. Williamson talked to President Ramsbottom for 1 ½ hours after the meeting was over. Then we attended a Fireside at brother Welsh's place. It was interesting. They had a quiz game on the scriptures and church history.

Monday April 28, 1969

For Preparation Day, we drove down to Workington, had a district meeting, then went to Maryport and took a bus to Silloth. As we rode the bus we had a clear view of the coast of Scotland. It was beautiful. The road ran just a few hundred yards off the shore line. At Silloth we played football. Elders Lester, Jensen, & Bair (the South) stood Elders Wilson, Phillips, and Gardner (the north). The south won 9 goals to 4 goals. It was a fun day. We had lunch (fruit) at the docks in Maryport. Tonight Elder Wilson & I made a BOM call back (reject), stopped at Sports Night for a few minutes, then went to bed.

Tuesday April 29, 1969

This morning Elder Wilson and I made out reports. Then we called on some BOM loans. This afternoon we went tracting. Not very many people were home. We manage to loan 2 people BOMs, but that was it. Tonight we played "Miracles" to Brother and Sister Wright. They enjoyed it. Sister Wright thought Matthew Cowley was too light hearted. Neither of them are living the Word of Wisdom. So, we have to challenge them on it; they have promised to attend church. I believe Sister Wright want to believe, but is just having a difficult time.

Wednesday April 30, 1969

We mainly tracked tonight and the rest of today. We loaned out 8 BOMs. Elder Wilson and I called on 3 appointments today, but they all fell through. I've really enjoyed working with Elder Wilson. He's one of the finest Elders I've seen. I pray the Lord will let us baptize while we are together. Well, the weather's been grand today, except for about an hour, then it really rained. Other than that it was a fairly clear day. I parked in front a man's driveway tonight while we tracted. He waited 1 ½ hours for us to return so he could get out of his driveway. He was nice about it (I'm glad I had L-Plates on the car. It made him a bit sympathetic about it)...

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..Elder Wilson and I met the uncle of Roger Bannister tracting today. He is about 75 years old, a Methodist and very friendly. Roger Bannister was the first man to run a mile under 4 minutes. It was very interesting.

Thursday May 1, 1969

We worked with the Workington Elders today. We tracted in Seaton and Clifton. We distributed 8 Books. Tonight Elder Lester and I showed a member family the film strip "Mormon Pavilion". Then we talked to a fellow who had been loaned a BOM. He was very interested. They're going to teach him a 1st discussion next week. At the same time Lester and I were busy, Elder Jensen & Elder Wilson were showing the film "What is a Mormon" to two families Jensen & I loaned BOMs to last week. They both accepted the films and are willing to have 1st discussions. I've really enjoyed today. It's been very interesting.

Friday May 2, 1969

Lester & Jensen rode with us to Whitehaven this morning in order to get their tape recorder out of the shop. We tracted most of a little town called St. Bees with Phillips..

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..and Bair. Everyone was very friendly. We loaned the people 7 BOMs and sold 2. Each team met some very good people in the morning & afternoon. Phillips & Bair aren't working tremendously hard, but perhaps the Lord will bless them with people to baptize. I hope so.

Saturday May 3, 1969

This morning we took a bath and shopped for food. In the afternoon we called on a few loaned BOMs (no results), and then tracted. We talked to some interesting people. Tonight we had 2 appointments, but they both fell through. About 8:30 or shortly thereafter, we started washing the Volkswagen at the chapel. After that, we crossed the street to Sister Harrison's house and waited for the Elders to phone-in their reports.

Sunday May 4, 1969

About half the branch went down to the temple on Friday. They won't be back until tonight, so there was only about 12 people at Sunday School & Fast & Testimony meetings. After the meetings were over we called on a loaned BOM. It was to a college girl. She bought it and promised to read it.

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Elders Phillips & Bair came at 3:30 and Elders Jensen & Lester came about 5:30. Then we took them all over to sister Harrison's for a spiritual development meeting. The main part of the meeting was playing the tape "The Strangest Secret in the World.". I really enjoyed it. So did everyone else. Then Sister Harrison fed us. We had baked ham, chips, peas, carrots, grapefruit, trifle, apple-pie and raspberry pie. She also had a great big box of chocolate. We all enjoyed it. The Elders all slept overnight here, after staying up until midnight clowning around & wrestling with each other.

Monday May 5, 1969

This morning I cooked some pancakes for the Elders. Then, after breakfast, about 10:00 we all went and played some miniature golf. It was fun. This afternoon we went to a movie ("Where Eagles Dare"). Tonight we went to Sports Night at the church. One of the girls there typed up a stencil for our survey sheets for us.

Tuesday May 6, 1969

Not a whole lot happened today. We had to re-do the stencil that was made for us yesterday. It rained cat and dogs all day. We visited people we're teaching mainly today...

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...Tonight we taught Sister Wright the film "Science Supports the Gold Plate Story" and the tape "Profile of a Prophet". She enjoyed them. I hope she will gain a spiritual understanding of these things.

Wednesday May 7, 1969

This morning and afternoon we tracted. Not a lot of people were home, but Elder Wilson & I loaned out 8 Books of Mormon. Also, this afternoon I paid another visit to the dentist and had a cavity filled. We called on Mr. Sanders, a Norwegian, and sold him the Book we loaned him. He has his own ideas and wants to keep them. One such idea is that men like Buddha & Mohammed were also Saviors of the world. He can have his ideas like that. Today I received a notice from BYU that I've been accepted as a student. All I need now is the money to go there. It is thrilling just to think of going to the "Y".

Thursday May 8, 1969

Elder Wilson & I got up at 5:00 today. We left the house for Harrogate about 6:15. There was a District Leader's Conference today. It was tremendous. The assistants, Elder Despain...

...and Elder Petersen spoke to us. President Robison spoke to us for a couple of hours in the afternoon. The meeting was very inspirational. The drive up and back was beautiful. After we arrived home, we went to see Sister Wright (she was busy) and Sister Carr. We visited her for about half an hour and made a return appointment.

Friday May 9, 1969

We loaned out 2 BOMs tracting this morning and afternoon. The Traveling Elders, Nay & Mack, came about 5:00 today. Elder Mack & I went out to Wigton to play Sister Williamson some choir music & "Profile of a Prophet." Elders Wilson & Nay stayed in town and tracted. They loaned out 4 BOMs. They're sleeping overnight with us. I really enjoy having them here.

Saturday May 11, 1969

Elders Nay and Mack gave us a tremendous study class this morning. While they gave it to us, they recorded, in the other room, my tape "The Strangest Secret in the World". Then we all went and took a bath. They left town and we shopped for food. They said they worked with Bair & Phillips in Whithaven on Wednesday. Tonight we played sister Carr some Tabernacle Choir music & "Miracles" by Matthew Cowley. She really enjoyed both. In fact, she broke into tears when she heard the music.



Sunday May 12, 1969

Brother & Sister Harrison took us on a short ride around the countryside outside Carlisle after Sunday School. Sister Williamson & her son Stephen and Sister Carr were at Sacrament Meeting. It was a good meeting. Sister Carr left before we could talk to her, but Sister Williamson liked it. It was a good spiritual meeting. An American couple named Snow attended Sunday School today. They're members from Utah & Idaho but are now stationed in Germany with the Army. They're driving through England & Scotland. They started in Scotland will end up in London. As they drove through Carlisle today, they filled up with petrol & asked for a Mormon church. They took a picture of Elder Wilson, brother James & I standing in front of the chapel. Sister Snow bought a can of Caro because she forgot to bring some from Germany. They're very nice people.

Monday May 12, 1969

We held Preparation day in Workington. Elder Jensen, Wilson & Rawlings tried out some fishing tackle and Elder Lester, Bair, & myself cooked a lot of spaghetti for everyone. Elder Bair made a very tasty chili sauce. Tonight we saw an Alfred Hitchcock movie "Torn Curtain". It was pretty good.

Tuesday May 13, 1969

We loaned out 3 BOMs during our tracting this morning and afternoon. We made several call backs tonight but no one was interested. We had a 2 hr. talk with Brother Harrison (non-member) & Sister Harrison on faith and spirituality. Brother Harrison wants to be baptized he has not got enough faith in himself.

Wednesday May 14, 1969

This morning we tracted for an hour then went to the dentist's. He filled 2 cavities. He said that I don't have any more at the present time. We tracted in the afternoon and made call backs in the evening. All we could do was loan out 3 BOMs today, but least that's something. The weather is still shining, for a change.

Thursday May 15, 1969

Elder Wilson and I drove to Whitehaven this morning and worked with Elder Lamone and Bair. We all made call backs in the morning, no reception; in the afternoon Elder Lamone and I tracted in Egremont, about 4 miles south of Whitehaven. We loaned out 8 BOMs to people. No one in the estate had ever heard of what a Mormon is, except one lady; she thought Mormon was a swear word. The people here are very friendly.



Elder Lamone

Friday May 16, 1969

Tracting today was fruitless. Tonight we taught Katie, Sister Williamson, a 3rd discussion. She gave us her Maxwell House Coffee. She says she'll try to live it (the Word of Wisdom). Katie has progressed a long way in her faith in God since we first talked to her. When we started she said that God & church were all a bunch of piffle. She's read up to Alma 8 in the Book of Mormon. Her testimony is growing. After the discussion, we played her the tape "Conversion of a Methodist Minister". She thought it was quite interesting. Before we left (at 11:00) she measured us both for sweaters.



Steve and Katie Williamson



Katie Williamson and Elder Wilson



Typical Street in Wigton

Saturday May 17, 1969

This morning we took a bath and shopped for food. This afternoon we tracted and loaned 2 BOMs to people. Not very people were home. Tonight we were scheduled to teach sister Carr a 3rd discussion, but she had to go out. We stayed at her house for about an hour waiting for her. We talked to her son Peter & some of his friends while we waited. Finally, we gave up and went home. After seeing her son and his friends, long hair, etc. I'm sure grateful for the gospel and the standards which it sets for young people. I know the gospel is true.

Sunday May 18, 1969

Sunday School was good today. The spirit was very nice. Sister Williamson and Stephen Paul, her son, came to Sacrament meeting tonight. They enjoyed it. Afterward we all went to sister Harrison's for a milk shake and cookies. It was a good chance for them to get to know Katie better, and visa versa. We had an appointment to teach Sister wright a 3rd discussion, but it fell through.

Monday May 19, 1969

This morning Elder Wilson and I wrote letters and read a bit. We drove to Workington about 11:00. It's an hour drive. We held a short district meeting at the chapel. Then we played English football all afternoon. Elders Bair, Jensen & Lester played against Elders Wilson, Lamone and me. They won 9 goals to 6. It was a lot of fun. Then I gave the district permission to see a Doris Day picture "6 Make an Eggroll", or something like that. I thoroughly enjoyed it. It relaxed me. I wish they made more movies like that because it left with a good feeling inside. I like things that give me a good feeling inside.

Note: the movie as "With 6 You Get Eggroll".

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Tuesday May 20, 1969

Yesterday, Sister Trickett of the branch here died. Her funeral is to be on Thursday. Gene & Gary Harrison came here last night to inform us. We talked to 2 real good families this afternoon, for 2 hours each but they wouldn't let us teach them. Tonight we tried to find a referral, but couldn't. About 8:00 we went to the church (it's Relief Society night) and practiced the hymns I'll be playing for the funeral.

Wednesday May 21, 1969

Elder Wilson and I tracted this morning and afternoon. We placed 6 BOMs. I met some of the best people I've ever met in Carlisle today. Tonight we made a few call backs, then at 8:30 we went to the church and I practiced tomorrow's hymns.

Thursday May 22, 1969

The funeral started about 10:45 today. We played Tabernacle Choir music up to that time. I played and everyone sang hymns #148 and #85 ("Jesus the Very Thought of Thee" and "Jesus, My Savior True".) It was a good service. Brother Britton spoke on the resurrection and President Ramsbottom spoke about sister Trickett. Afterwards we went to a...

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... reception and had a little something to eat. I received a transfer notice today. I'm going to Sunderland as D.L. on Saturday. Tonight I said good-bye to the Stainton, Harrisons & Ramsbottoms.

★ Alberta Trickett of Carlisle Branch, passed peacefully away in her sleep on May 19th aged 71, after suffering for a number of years with a serious heart condition.

She was a faithful member and worked hard in Relief Society where she contributed greatly with her beautiful knitting.

The funeral service was held on May 22nd at the Carlisle Chapel under the direction of Pres. Ramsbottom. A talk on the Resurrection was given by Elder Britton and Pres. Ramsbottom paid tribute to Sis. Trickett's sincerity and devotion to the Church. Pres. Irvine dedicated the grave.

From the July 1969 Millennial Star, pg 76.

Friday May 23, 1969

This morning we worked with Elders Bair and Lamone in Whitehaven. Then this afternoon we worked with Elders Jensen & Lester in Workington. They're teaching a real golden man. He's read "The Mormons" by Robert Muller and wants to be baptized. Tonight we played sister Williamson two tapes: "Cigarettes" and "Miracles". She really enjoyed them. Then she surprised us with a salad and cake. She also gave us some cookies and homemade cake to take home with us. She's a tremendous lady. She comes from the Cockney part of London and it really shows through.

Saturday May 24, 1969

This morning I finished packing my trunk. Elder Wilson and I took a bath about 9:00p, then I left on the 11:15 train to Newcastle. From there I came down to Sunderland. I was here in Sunderland at 2:30. On the

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....train over to Newcastle, I met a 14 yr. old boy. He's been smoking for years. It's really sad to think they start smoking so young. Tonight Elder Nelson, my new companion, and I spoke to the Morrison's, members, and saw the sisters for a while. We have lady missionaries in the district, Sister Alexander and Sister Hatch. Sister Alexander had an upset stomach & headache when we got there, so she had gone to bed.



Sister Alexander



Sister Caroline Hatch

Sunday May 25, 1969 – WHIT Sunday

Everyone here in Sunderland is friendly and easy to get on with. All the members came up and introduced themselves to me. There are about 80 active members. Tonight was ward conference and the Stake Presidency spoke. It was tremendous. They all gave excellent talks. Afterwards to we took the sisters over to a family they are teaching. I talked to them for a few minutes. They're friends of a member. Then we all went over to Sister Morris's. Her husband is a member, and a great man, but he is an alcoholic. He's in the hospital now. He loves the church and wants to be active more than anything, but he's in the clutches of a deadly enemy to men's souls.

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Monday May 26, 1969 – Whit Monday

For Preparation Day the district came down to the church and cut the grass and raked it up; then we all played basketball. While the Elders were doing this, Sister Hatch and Alexander were busy cooking sloppy joes, making potato salad, and baking cookies. We had a great meal. The Elders in the district are: Maxwell & Beck and Kellersberger & Martin. Tonight we went with the sisters and visited Brother Morris, a member who is an alcoholic. He's a great man and very talented, but is also very sick. It's too bad. I feel sorry for him.

Tuesday May 27, 1969

A little boy gave us his mother's rent book before we even got out of the car in our area today. Then an 80 yr. old nanna got locked out of her house, so I opened the bathroom window with a screw driver and let her in. We loaned a BOM to a college girl, a strong Methodist, and she asked us to come back in half an hour. We came back and she said "It makes you think, doesn't it?". So we're coming back in a few days. I hope we can find a family within a few days. Elder Nelson goes home in about 3 weeks. He wants to find a family before he goes home.



Elder Nelson

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Wednesday May 28, 1969

This morning and afternoon we worked with Elders Beck & Maxwell in Should Shields. We placed 7 BOMs with them. They're the best team in the district, as far as effectiveness goes. Tonight we saw some members and got a referral from them. We went by this referral, a Mr. & Mrs. Carr, and they gave us a return appointment. Brother & Sister Liddle referred us to them.

Thursday May 29, 1969

This morning we had a study class with Sisters Hatch & Alexander. They had a lot of good questions which really made us think. We talked about the priesthood with them. This afternoon we worked with Elders Beck & Maxwell in South Shields. This time we placed 6 BOMs with them. Tonight we played "The Strangest Secret in the World" to Bob & Jean and gave them the goal of living the Word of Wisdom. They have accepted the challenge. Now I hope they'll be able to live it. They want to be baptized, but the W.O.W. is holding them back. After the tape, Dave & Liz came over and joined us. The sisters borrowed my projector to show a film strip tonight.



Elder Beck



Elder Martin

Friday May 30, 1969

We went to Peterlee this morning to work with Elders Kellersberger & Martin. Martin has come down with chicken pox. He really is sick. This afternoon Elder Nelson & I tracted in the sister's area. We met some nutty people. Tonight, we called back on some loaned Books of Mormon. Two places gave us a return app't. The other packed us in. One person, Mrs. Petrie, is a Spanish teacher and is fairly interested. After that, we spoke to sister Morris for a few minutes & came home.

Saturday May 31, 1969

We, Nelson & I, did our laundry this morning and washed & waxed the car. This afternoon we called on a BOM loan, but got packed in. Then we touch-up painted the right fender of the car. Elder Nelson dented & scratched it just before I came. Tonight we were surprised pleasantly by the traveling Elders. The travelers are Elders McCarlie & Hoopes. Granma, our landlady, didn't get home from Durham until midnight. She said they could sleep the night, though. Both the Elders go home in about 10 days time. They're going to be in the district for about a week. I hope they can help us find some families.



Elder Van McCarlie

He was the pro golfer from Las Vegas.

He carried his golf clubs with him on his mission.

He chipped and putted in the mornings and played a round of golf when time permitted.



Elder Hoopes

Sunday June 1, 1969

I enjoyed church today. During fast and testimony meeting Elder Nelson blessed Jean Warring's a little girl. Jean is an investigator. Fast and testimony meeting was great. We held a Spiritual Development meeting at the sister's flat. My testimony has really grown these past few months. It seems that the longer I've been out, the more the gospel means to me. My understanding toward life is such as to give the desire to serve the Lord to the end. I want to develop myself in so many ways. Thanks to the gospel, and my faith, I'll be able to achieve these goals. Now I understand how faith can work miracles. I want faith. I need faith. I now realize how weak my faith was back home. But my faith now has grown to a great extent. It's a living testimony to me to feel the inspiration and hear the whisperings of the Holy Ghost.

Monday June 2, 1969

The gospel means more and more to me every day. It's such a thrill and a blessing to be on a mission. I wouldn't trade my mission experiences for anything. To be able to tell people what the purpose of life is and that...

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...God has a prophet on the earth is wonderful. Most people won't listen or if they do, they don't care at all. Sometimes I feel very frustrated. But again, I've learned patience out here. It's worth any price to see someone accept the gospel. I rejoice when anyone accepts these teachings. I know they're true and divine.

Tuesday June 3, 1969

Elder Hoopes & I sat in on a very pleasant 6th discussion on tithing. The sisters taught it. Mrs. Donaldson accepted it. I'm grateful. I thank the Lord for his spirit. This afternoon Elder McCarlie & I tracted by the spirit in the sister's area. In an area where most people are old, we were led mainly to young people. Four we loaned a BOM to. I felt very strongly impressed to stop at this particular house. The people were Methodists, but readily accepted a BOM. It was if they had been prepared for our coming. I haven't written much about it but the Lord has been with me very much on my mission. Inwardly I feel a continuous witness the gospel is true. I've learned that most people don't have very full or good understanding of life. Of where we came from, why we are here, and where we are going. Most people don't know. I do.



Elder Hoopes

Elder McCarlie and I slept overnight at Elders Beck & Maxwell's in South Shields. We tracted and taught BOM 2nd all day. Tonight Elder Beck and I taught a 2nd discussion to Mrs. Coxen, a school teacher. She was very impressed with the BOM; she said it made religion practical. She said she could use it in teaching. I felt very relieved that there are still intelligent people left in the world. Elder Beck is also a smooth teacher. I always feel good after teaching. It relaxes me and uplifts and inspires me. I thank the Lord for the privilege.



Elder Beck

Thursday June 5, 1969

Today Elder Hoopes & I went to the sister's to play a tape to a couple of their contacts. However, Trevor & Vic weren't home. Elder Nelson & I tracted in a stone row area. We loaned 1 BOM to some good people. Hoopes & I, and about a half dozen members, pitched the church's tent at the church for the traveling Elders to sleep in. They have no place else to sleep. We've tracted by the spirit quite a bit this week, spot tracting. It's a good experience. Sometimes I feel as if I'm choosing the doors, but sometimes I feel the Lord is doing the choosing for me.

Friday June 6, 1969

Elder Nelson & I worked with the South Shields Elders & the Travelers worked in the sister's area. I've begun feeling closer to the spirit than I have for a while. My faith has been tested and I feel like I'm stronger. The Lord blessed us with several good opportunities to bear testimony, which we did. I always feel good after bearing testimony of the gospel.



Location: a village near South Shields.
Brenson tracted this village in July 1969 as a missionary.

The village of South Shields

Saturday June 7, 1969

Last night the travelers, us & Alvin (a member who is a twin for Bob Green), all slept on the church grounds in a tent & sleeping bags. In fact, the travelers stayed there Thursday night also. We showered, shopped & cleaned the car in the morning. In the afternoon, Elder McCarlie & I tracted. We weren't tremendously successful, but we felt uplifted & strengthened. Tonight, the sisters & Elders Nelson & Hoopes went to an art show at the church. I felt impressed to begin searching for a particular house, where we could loan a BOM, so McCarlie & I drove out of town. We stopped at a few isolated farm houses, but nothing happened. We finished up about ½ mile from the church. The first door we knocked on, we were invited in by a man & wife who could be potential members. They're young & intelligent. It took us all night to find one house, but we did. It was McCarlie's last night of tracting in England.

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Monday June 9, 1969

Elder Nelson & I called back on loaned BOMs and tracted today; we loaned 7 BOMs. I hope some of them will be touched by the spirit. We've been fasting today. I've felt good spiritually all day. It's been wonderful to serve the Lord today, as always. May tomorrow be equally as good.

Tuesday June 10, 1969

We worked with the Peterlee Elders this morning and afternoon. They are about recovered from the small pox. Martin is still a bit weak. They, Kellersberger & Martin, want to find a new place to stay because the rent they're paying is too high (5 pounds a week, a piece, for breakfast only, which is 2 eggs & a piece of toast). So, Nelson & Kellersberger tracted, and Martin & I looked for new lodgings.

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Wednesday June 11, 1969

Elder Nelson & I worked with the Elders in South Shields this morning and afternoon. We loaned 8 BOMs. Boy the weather for the past week has been like summer should be. Nice and hot. Today was pretty routine. I have sure felt good today. It seems that my testimony and faith grow just a bit each day. Well, tomorrow's zone conference. I'm looking forward to it.

Thursday June 12, 1969

This morning we had zone conference at the Sunderland Stake Chapel. It was very inspiring. They showed us a film about the life of David O. McKay. It was thrilling. I took the district on a walk over to the beach, then we ate at an Italian restaurant. After that we walked through the park. You know, England has some of the most fantastic parks. This one is just beautiful. We then watched "Dr. Zhivago" at the movies. I'm very grateful for today. Zone conferences always help me get in tune with the Lord. My testimony grows a bit more each time also. To be able to sit in the midst of 40 Elders and feel of the strength and spirit of their testimony is very gratifying. I feel a sense of renewed dedication and desire. I thank the Lord for that feeling.

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Friday June 13, 1969

We went to South Shields this morning. Elder Maxwell & I played a lady "Profile of a Prophet". She enjoyed it and was impressed by it. We called on some loaned BOMs but no one was home, except for 2 who returned it. When we loan people BOMs there's no guarantee they will read it and be touched by the spirit. I found out yesterday that a man Elder Jensen and I tracted up in Workington was baptized. This man is golden. He's about 40 or 50. He not only read the Book of Mormon but also the book "The Mormons" by Robert Mullen. He asked them to baptize him. It makes me feel grateful that some good came from our labors there.

Saturday June 14, 1969

This afternoon Elder Nelson and I went to Durham to give a man a free Book of Mormon. We took the bus over. It's 12 miles away, 45 minutes by bus. We couldn't find him home, so we gave the book to his brother. When we have time we'll call back on him. Tonight some of the members held a going away part for Elder Nelson. They held the part at Bob & Jean's house. Everyone here really loves Elder Nelson. We left about 10:00 so we could take "phone-ins" from the Elders, but the phone was tied up by one man from 10:00 to 10:45. So we'll

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...get their reports on Monday.

Sunday June 15, 1969

Tonight we went to Vic & Trevor's two of the sisters' contacts. We played the tape "Strangest Secret in the World" and then bore strong, fervent testimony of the value of the gospel in a person's life. It is the most important thing in a person's life.

Monday June 16, 1969

The district went to Durham and saw the Cathedral and Castle. It was fascinating. Tonight Elder Nelson and I went to President & Sister Oates and had a Family Home Evening with them. I love the home evening program. P.S. Elder Nelson says he's trunked-out.

Tuesday June 17, 1969

We called on some people in our area, no success, then went to see the South Shields Elders. Elder Beck has been transferred to Leeds District, the town of Wakefield. We visited sister Moody & sister Braithwaite for a while. Tonight we (us and the Sisters) taught the tape "By Their Fruits Ye Shall Know Them" to Trevor & Vic, but they didn't respond. A lot of their ideas come from Buddhists & are against the churches' teachings all together. One such idea they have is being tranquil all the time. By this, they mean having no cares for anything or anybody or being concerned with having responsibility. I love the standards of the church, and I know the church's philosophy is better and more noble than any other philosophy there is.

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Wednesday June 18, 1969

Today Elder Nelson packed his bags and did some shopping. Tonight we went out to Bob & Jean Warring's' for a while. They know the church is true, but they've lost the spirit of the Holy Ghost and their desire is gone.

Thursday June 19, 1969

Elder Nelson left with Elder Beck at 7:50 this morning. The Sisters saw them off, which pleased them both. My next companion, Elder McCormack is a very good elder and a hard worker. He's been very blessed on his mission with 24 baptisms. He's been out for 15 months. I'm going to enjoy working with him.

Friday June 20, 1969

Elder McCormack and I worked in Peterlee today. We had a small amount of success, but most of all we were able to help them out in their proselyting techniques, which is very important.

Saturday June 21, 1969

We washed the car today, then tracted in the Sisters area. Tonight we taught Mr. & Mrs. Browell a 1st discussion. They were fairly good but not real spiritual, yet. He's searching, though.

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Sunday June 22, 1969

Elder Despain told me the Sisters are being transferred on Wednesday. It will come as quite a surprise when they find out tomorrow. We all spent the evening at the Morris's and played the tape "Follow the Path of Prayer" by Marion G. Romney. I think it is a tremendous talk.

Monday June 23, 1969

The sisters were surprised that they've moving out of the area. The district went bowling today. Our district meeting was very inspiring. I enjoyed the spirit tremendously.

Tuesday June 24, 1969

Elder McCormack & I tracted today. We've had a real good day in the spirit and talked to some real good people. We feel that we're on the brink of success. There are people out there to find. By our diligence, we will find them. I pray that we will.

Wednesday June 25, 1969

We took the sisters, Alexander & Hatch, to the train station and saw them off. Then we went out working and placed 7 BOMs today. I'm sure we'll find some good people to teach. I know there are people here waiting to be taught the gospel. We've just go to find them.



Sister Alexander



Sister Carolyn Hatch

Thursday June 26, 1969

This morning we worked with Haygood and Maxwell in South Shields. They're doing good. Katie Williamson, from Wigton, told me in a letter that tomorrow she's is going to be baptized by Elders Wilson & McKay. I'm really grateful. Steve Ramsden also sent me a letter. I love both of these people.



Elder McKay

Friday June 27, 1969

Elder McCormack and I worked with Elders Martin and Kellersberger in Peterlee today. They need to build up their enthusiasm. I believe we can help them. The mission home wrote and said we're receiving two new Elders tomorrow. One is an English missionary, the other is a "greenie".

Saturday June 28, 1969

There was a stake missionary meeting at the stake house today. We sat in on it for a few minutes and offered our suggestions. The two new Elders: Proudlove, from Redding, England and Miles, from Salt Lake City, arrived this afternoon. Both are very anxious to do the work. Elder Miles is a little scared and worried, but he will get over that. Both of them will do a lot of good in the area. I hope they'll be able to baptize someone before long.

Sunday June 29, 1969

Elder McCormack spoke in Sunday School today. That's the only thing out of the ordinary that happened today, except we had a very inspirational Sacrament Meeting. One Silver-haired lady bore a grand testimony. It was strong and yet it was humble and meek.

Monday June 30th 1969

The district went pitch 'n putt golfing today. Everyone enjoyed it. We all had a lot of fun. Tonight Elder McCormack & I taught a 1st discussion to Mr. & Mrs. Richard Lewis. They were very nice. We'll see how it goes with them next week.

Tuesday July 1, 1969

We taught a 2nd discussion to Mrs. Calvert and Mrs. Mackey, two neighbors. They're interested. We're going to teach them a 1st on Thursday. I sure love telling people about the church and the gospel. I feel good inside when I can bear my testimony of the gospel because I know the gospel is true.

Wednesday July 2, 1969

Elder McCormack and I worked with the Peterlee Elders today (Kellersberger & Martin). We had a successful day. We loaned out 9 BOMs, and taught a lady a 1st discussion. She accepted the challenge. I pray our success will continue.

Thursday July 3, 1969

There was a DL's conference in Harrogate today. President Robison and the assistants, Mack & Despain, spoke to us. They made us feel good and they taught us some good things. One of which is to think positive, or have faith. It's one thing to toy around with an idea, it's quite another to put it into action. That's a weakness I have: putting my ideas into action. While I was in Harrogate, Elder McCormack taught a 1st discussion to people in our area. He worked with Elder Nott (long o) today. Today has been an uplifting spiritual day.

Friday July 4, 1969

One of the greatest lessons I've learned that will make men independent, as America was made independent so long ago, is that in order to be successful in any venture, great or small, a person in order to his best must : be prepared. It means he must also be organized. The most effective leader is the one who is prepared to carry out his responsibilities and perhaps a few that aren't. As America celebrates its independence, I hope that the people of America will cling close to this lesson. People must be prepared to stay free and maintain that freedom. The kind of preparation the people make will determine the future of America.

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Saturday July 5, 1969

This morning we washed the car and showered and took care of a few odds & ends. We loaned 4 BOMs and got an app't to teach a 1st tonight. We taught it to a girl named Brenda Stevenson; she's very receptive. Her boyfriend was all right also. We'll see how they turn out. I think at least she may make it.

Sunday July 6, 1969

Today Elder Miles & Proudlove brought a Mr. Scot to Sunday School. He's a very humble man. I gave a talk in Sunday School on Isaiah 55:8-9. After church, the traveling Elders had a study class with us and covered some important points. Then tonight we held a spiritual development meeting at the Elders' flat in Peterlee. The theme: By their Fruits Ye Shall Know Them. It was a good way to end a fast Sunday.

Monday July 7, 1969

Today's Dad's birthday and I forgot to mail him a card. Well, better late than never. The district played basketball today. The traveling Elders also joined us. The work out really felt good. Then tonight we taught a 2nd discussion to Brenda Stevenson. She said she'd come to church on Sunday. I hope she does.

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Tuesday July 8, 1969

Today Elder McCormack split up with the Sunderland Elders, Miles & Proudlove. Miles has nearly learned the 1st discussion. We tracted with them this morning. The afternoon was spent tracting in our area. Tonight we challenged a Miss Ketley to baptism on the 1st of August. She accepted the challenge. We also talked to many other people tonight, but Elder McCormack and I weren't able to teach them a 1st like we wanted to do. We were able to explain things for them, though, and that's a measure of success.

Wednesday July 9, 1969

This morning we caught Martin & Kellersberger suffering from a bad stomach. Martin's feeling good now. Tonight we worked in South Shields with Heygood and Maxwell. They're have a lot of success teaching the people down there. They should baptize before long.



Elder Kellersberger



Elder Martin

Elder Martin

Thursday July 10, 1969

We tracted the entire day in our own area. Hardly anyone was home all day. So we loaned out 7 BOMs for the day, but we had a good day in the spirit, which is very important. I feel like the Lord has blessed not only our area, but also the whole district. In fact, I know he has.

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Friday July 11, 1969

This morning and afternoon we worked in Peterlee with Kellersberger & Martin. They're doing good. We had a study class on become a challenging & baptizing missionary. Tonight Elder Miles passed off a 1st discussion. He did real well. Proudlove & McCormack taught a 3rd and Miles and I called back on some people McCormack & I loaned books to. One family sincerely interested. We'll teach them next week. My testimony has really grown lately. I know that this is the truth.

Saturday July 12, 1969

This morning we went to South Shields. Maxwell transferred today and Heygood needed help with some appointments. Tonight we gave Brother & Sister Morris and their family and friends a Family Home Evening Lesson. It went over well. I love the Home Evening Program. It's inspired of God and I know they will unite a family in a bond of love. Everyone should use it.

Sunday July 13, 1969

Mira Kethley, an investigator of ours, came to both Sunday School and Sacrament Meetings today. She enjoyed them both. I pray we'll be able to take her to the waters of baptism. She's a choice person. Tonight we went to Bob & Jean Warrings and presented them with a family home evening lesson.

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Monday July 14, 1969

Today we washed & waxed the car, did laundry and went lawn bowling for a couple of hours. That was a lot of fun. Tonight we taught Mira Kethley, her mother & brother a 2nd discussion & "What is a Mormon" filmstrip. Everyone enjoyed it. We really felt the spirit strong tonight. We pray that Mira will accept the challenges of the gospel. Perhaps some of her family will also.

Tuesday July 15, 1969

This morning we worked with Elder Miles and Proudlove. They're doing good in their area; Miles is a bit homesick, but he's adjusting pretty well. Today was a real good day. We've been feeling extremely well spiritually. President Robison and the assistants are coming on Thursday.

Wednesday July 16, 1969

This morning & afternoon we tracted with Elders Martin & Kellersberger. They're two good men. Tonight Elder McCormack and I taught a Mr. & Mrs. Crighton and family a 1st discussion. They accepted it very well. We should be able to teach the gospel to them. I pray we will. Elder McCormack is a very good teacher. I enjoy working with him very much. He's very likeable and is a good hard worker.

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Thursday July 17, 1969

Elder McCormack and I went to South Shields this morning and worked with Elders Heygood & Heaps. We placed 5 books. We all came back to Sunderland at noon for a district meeting with President Robison and the assistants, Elders Mack & Despain. It was very good – we enjoyed it very much. It was good to see them again. Tonight we taught Mira Ketley and her mother a 3rd discussion. It was difficult but we finally got her cigarettes and obtained a promise to live it for a month. I know she can do it. I hope she does. They're good people.

Books Read (and date completed) for 3rd 6 months of my mission:

Book of Mormon on Tape – February 16

Pearl of Great Price on Tape – April

New Testament – April 14

Great Apostasy – May 7

Book of Mormon – May 20

Doctrine and Covenants – June 15

Pearl of Great Price – June 24

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Friday July 18, 1969

Elder McCormack and I worked in our area this morning and afternoon. We taught a 1st discussion to Mrs. Butler. She accepted it. Her husband, however, won't let her go on with it. Then tonight Elder McCormack taught a 1st discussion with Elder Proudlove and I taught a 2nd discussion with Elder Miles. It's been a real good day. I've felt the spirit very strongly today.

Saturday July 19, 1969

We tracted all day in our area, except when we washed the car and took showers. As the last six months of my mission gets under way, I realize that I've got to proselyte even harder and better than ever before. The remaining few months will be the best part of my whole mission. I'm really looking forward to it.

Sunday July 20, 1969

Today has been spiritually a very good day. It's also been a hot day. An American couple are visiting Sunderland. The wife was a part of the old Sunderland branch, 20 years ago. Her husband was a missionary in Southern California. Who knows how they met? Tonight, the astronauts landed on the moon. I'm thrilled they landed. It's the most historic thing to have happened since Joseph Smith saw God.

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Monday July 21, 1969

Today was a work day. We walked everywhere all day because the car is getting a 20,000 mile check. Several people returned BOMs today and Mira, our golden investigator, packed us too. We felt disappointed about her, but I can't help thinking God will lead us to others. He always does. We watched a replay of the moon walk after joint study this morning. It was thrilling. To try and add anything to the wonderful things which have been said and done would not do justice to the occasion, but let it be said that I feel very proud of them and America. It's been a great day.

Tuesday July 22, 1969

Elder McCormack & I went to Peterlee today. Martin was stuffed up with a cold, so he decided to stay in bed all day. He didn't really need to do it. He wasn't that sick. I tracted morning & afternoon with Kellersberger. We taught one 1st discussion together. Tonight Elder McCormack & I tracted in our own area.

Wednesday July 23, 1969

This morning and afternoon Elder McCormack and I surveyed with Elders Haygood & Heaps in South Shields. Then tonight, we tracted in our own area. We taught one 2nd discussion to a young family. It went well. We'll probably see them again soon.

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July 24, 1969

What a day! We sure had fun celebrating the Saints moving into the Salt Lake Valley. The bus picked us up at 8:00. The whole zone came, except the Lake District. There were 34 Elders there. First we stopped at Alnwick Castle. It's still lived in. I've never seen just a display of beautiful woodwork, furniture hundreds of years old, marble fire places, original paintings, some by Van Dyke. It's the most elegant place I think I've ever been in. There's also a library of 16,000 antique books. It's simply a beautiful castle. Then we went to Bamburgh Castle and to the beach there. Bamburgh has been completely restored. It's been used for movies like "Becket" and so forth. We had a great time playing football, American style, on the beach. Then we built a fire and roasted hot dogs and drank 7-up for our meal time. That was great fun. Even the bus ride itself was exciting. I kept attacking Elder Heygood, an ex-army M.P., and he gingerly took care of me. I saw the inside of the bus from every possible angle. It's been a great day. Everyone came home very happy, and sore. I think one of the greatest, if not the greatest, chance we have as missionaries to fellowship has been today. I hope the film I took of the today comes out well. It was just been a wonderful day.

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Friday July 25, 1969

This morning we went to Peterlee. Elder Martin has been transferred. He leaves tomorrow. It's been good to know him. I wish him success. Elder Kellersberger and I tracted this morning and loaned out some BOMs. This afternoon and evening we worked with Proudlove and Miles in Sunderland. I tracted with Miles in the morning and Proudlove in the evening. Well, diary, it's been another real good day.

Saturday July 26, 1969

This morning we took showers and took care of details. This afternoon and tonight we called on BOM call-backs. We have return appointments with some very good people. By the way, one of the things we did this morning was to take Elder Martin from the bus station to the train station.

Sunday July 27, 1969

Elders Proudlove & Miles brought some very fine people to Sunday School today. I taught the investigators class today. We read the 1st & 2nd chapters of "Marvelous Work and a Wonder". Tonight Elder McCormack and I went to Peterlee and gave talks. Most of the members all over the Stake are down at the London temple for a week, so not very many people were out to services today. Despite the lack of numbers, there was a good spirit at both the meetings today.

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Monday July 28, 1969

For Preparation Day, the district came into Sunderland and went bowling. Elder McCormack and Proudlove went to the movie "South Pacific". It's been raining cats 'n dogs all day. It might clear up tomorrow though.

Tuesday July 29, 1969

This afternoon Elder McCormack & I taught a 1st discussion to a Mr. Stevens. He didn't accept it very well. At least we discerned him. It's a joy to teach discussions. That way we have an even greater opportunity to bear testimony.

Wednesday July 30, 1969

We went to South Shields today. Elder Haygood and I taught a 3rd discussion to a boy named Philipps. He accepted the challenge. This afternoon Elder Heaps and I surveyed on the street. Elder McCormack was very successful. He got about 9 or 10 cards signed for free BOMs in the afternoon alone. Tonight in our area we were tracted up by 2 Pentecostal girls as we were tracting. We finished talking to them by giving them a BOM and making an appointment for a 1st discussion.

Thursday July 31, 1969

We brought the Peterlee Elders into Sunderland this afternoon and surveyed with them and street boarded. It was a successful day. Tonight we called back on one of the ...

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...free BOM cards, a lad about 18 or 19 yrs. old. He seems receptive. We taught him a flip chart 2nd tonight. He's a good contact.

Friday August 1, 1969

We tracted all day without a lot of success. Elder McCormack & I did meet some good people though. My testimony grows a little more each day. I don't see how an honest person could help but see that the church & it's teachings are true.

Saturday August 2, 1969

After taking care of essentials today, we street boarded with Elder Proudlove & Elder Miles. We got several cards signed. Elder Miles is developing into a real good missionary. He's been in the field about 5 weeks or so. He's picking up on the proselyting techniques very well. His testimony has grown a lot since he came over.

Sunday August 3, 1969

Tonight in South Shields, at Brother & Sister Jennings, we had a spiritual development meeting. The theme was prayer. We were all touched deeply by the testimony and spirit there. These meetings mean a ...

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...lot to me. I hope the Lord blesses us with his spirit at all times like he did this night.

Monday August 4, 1969

Our main activity as a district today was to play soccer. It was a lot of fun. English football is a very good sport. It's almost like basketball on the ground. I enjoy it very much.

Tuesday August 5, 1969

We worked in Peterlee today. Elder McCormack helped teach a 1st & I sat in on a 2nd discussion. We also loaned out 11 BOMs today. I hope they're successful in finding people to baptize. We all want to baptize very much.

Wednesday August 6, 1969

President Robison & the assistants, Despain & Mack came to Sunderland and gave us a new kind of planning book. It's a book to help us get more organized in our work. I believe it's going to be a tremendous help. The thing that will make us more effective and efficient as missionaries will be proper organization. I'm glad they brought these books to us.

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Thursday August 7, 1969

We called on referrals and tracted all day today. Not a lot of people are home right now. We're in the midst of this area's holiday season and most people, it seems, are out on holiday. We're still finding enough people home to talk to though.

Friday August 8, 1969

Elder McCormack & I taught a 1st discussion tonight to 2 Methodists, brother and sister. Lynne received it well, but her brother Bill kicked and she followed his will instead of her own. It's too bad. If Bill hadn't been there, I think she might have accepted the challenge.

Saturday August 9, 1969

Today we called on quite a few referrals but most of them weren't home. IT's been a good day though.

Sunday August 10, 1969

Today Elder Miles passed off his 5th discussion to me. He's learning fine. He'll be a good missionary. Tonight, Gran, our landlady, came home from her two week holiday. She had a real good time. It's good to have her back home again.

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Monday August 11, 1969

For our full preparation day we took a tour through one of the Doxford ship yards. It was very interesting. I would never imagine there was so much involved in building a ship. I'm grateful for the tour. It taught us all a lot. Tonight we all went to a show ("Hook Line & Sinker") . It was pretty good, also.

Tuesday August 12, 1969

We tracted and I called on a few referrals today. Elder McCormack and I met some good people. I hope we're able to baptize soon. That's what we're here for and it's been a long time since we've had one.

Wednesday August 13, 1969

Today has been a good day. We tracted in South Shields during the afternoon. We put out 12 books this afternoon. All total we put out 18 for the day. My testimony grows stronger every day.

Thursday August 14, 1969

Tonight Bishop Liddle, and the ward bishopruc showed the film "Man's Search for Happiness" to over 100 people at the West End Community center. It was well received. I had the privilege of opening the meeting with prayer. I also had the opportunity to bear my testimony to the people after the film was...

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...over. What an experience! After that, Elder McCormack closed the meeting with a word of prayer.



Friday August 15, 1969

This morning Elder McCormack and I worked with Elders Proudlove & Miles here in Sunderland. We (Proudlove & me) visited brother & Sister Watson, 2 investigators, for a few minutes then we called on a few referrals. One man we talked to just returned from the States. He's in the Salvation Army and travels a lot. He son lives in Northern Sacramento and he is acquainted with Vacaville. It's a small world.

Saturday August 16, 1969

Today has been a pretty effective work day. It marks the end of a real good week. So good, I'm going to mention the amount of success we've been blessed with. We loaned 41 BOMs out to people. That's the most in a single week of my whole mission. I hope we can teach some of these people. It's a great thrill to teach and bear testimony of the gospel.

Sunday August 17, 1969

Tonight I interviewed the Watsons for baptism on Saturday. At first they were very unsure and shaky, but then the spirit touched them and they came around. I think they'll be great members. Tithing has been an obstacle to overcome but Bishop Little and they will work out the details.

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Monday August 18, 1969

The district worked on the Sunderland Stake House roof today. The present roof has to be completely removed and a new one put on because a fault in design has caused the present one to crack and to leak. The overall time needed will be 4 or 5 months. I've got sore hands from swinging a sledge hammer all day. Everyone really enjoyed themselves.

Tuesday August 19, 1969

Tonight Elder Miles and played Brother and Sister Watson a talk on tithing by Ernest L. Wilkinson. They enjoyed it. They enjoyed it. I think they have a better understanding and appreciation of tithing now. We had a real good talk with them on fasting and prayer. I enjoyed the evening. My feelings are tithing are very sure. It's a commandment of God and should be obeyed as such. Like the Lord says, when we keep this law he will open the windows of heaven upon us. I know that this is true.

Wednesday August 20, 1969

This morning and afternoon we worked with the Elders in Peterlee. Kellersberger & Wood. They're working hard on bring people out to church. In fact, they have one family, I hope they can find more.

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Thursday August 21, 1969

Elders McCormack and I worked with the South Shields Elders this morning. We had quite a lot of success, 10 BOMs loaned in 2 hours. Perhaps someone from the Many BOMs we loan out each week will join the church. That's why we are here.

Friday August 22, 1969

Tonight we were mobbed by dozens of little kids on a housing estate. They thought we were great. They followed us everywhere and they laughed and smiled with us; it was a wonderful occasion. When we drove away, that ran after us for nearly a block. I think I'll always remember the way they "took to us".

Saturday August 23, 1969

This afternoon at 4:30 we held a baptism service for Brother & Sister Watson, and two girls. One little girl was from Peterlee, the other from Sunderland. It was a good service. Sister Watson cried at first. There were about 45 people there. We're all grateful for the support of the members. It means so much to us to have them give us support. We fasted for the occasion. So did the Watsons and Elder Miles and Proudlove.

Sunday August 24, 1969

Nothing happened out of the ordinary today.

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Monday August 25, 1969

After writing letters and going to the bank, we went bowling. Then we took in a couple of pictures ("Ring of Bright Water" and "Run Wild Run Free". We haven't done much today but it's been fun doing it.

Tuesday August 26, 1969

We went to South Shields tonight and helped teach brother and Sister Rogers. They've had 5 discussions already, but their testimony isn't sufficiently strong. The whole trouble is that they haven't been reading the Book of Mormon. In order for them to gain a testimony, they have got to read it. I know that it is true.

Wednesday August 27, 1969

This morning and afternoon we worked with the Peterlee team, Kellersberger & Wood. They're working hard and have a few people attending church. I hope they're able to baptize out there. It would mean a lot to them and they'd be filling their purpose as missionaries.

Thursday August 28, 1969

Tonight we worked with Elder Miles and Proudlove here in Sunderland. They've found some good people that should come out to church on Sunday. I'm grateful for the work they've done so far. I hope they keep it up.

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Friday August 29, 1969

We worked in our own area all day today.

Saturday August 30, 1969

Today we washed & waxed the car, then tracted and called on referrals in our own area. We've put out a lot of books again this week, but we haven't found anyone to teach yet.

Sunday August 31, 1969

This afternoon I interviewed the Rodgers for baptism. They're not ready; they haven't got a testimony. They also haven't read the B.O.M. Tonight in Sacrament Meeting I have a talk on "Why Revelation is Necessary". It seemed as though the words not mine, but that they were being revealed to me as I spoke. The spirit was strong there. Revelation comes to all, through their prayers and their faith.

Monday September 1, 1969

After district meeting, the district went and saw "Sons of Katie Elder" for preparation Day. That's about all we did this week.

Tuesday September 2, 1969

We worked in our own area today. We've been meeting a lot of good people, but not anyone to convert. I hope we find someone soon.

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Wednesday September 3, 1969

Again, we worked, mainly tracting, in our area. We're north of the River, near Hylton Castle, the castle that "haunted" by the "cold stable boy". We haven't found anybody yet, except Miss Stalling. She's about 30 yrs. old. We haven't given her a 1st yet, but she's receptive.

Thursday September 4, 1969

This morning Elder Proudlove and I taught two 1st discussions. One good, and one bad. One family he should be able to teach, the other packed us in. Then this afternoon I tracted with Elder Miles. He's a good Elder and should go a long way of his mission. Tonight we went to Peterlee. There, Elder Kellersberger and I taught a 5th discussion to the Stevenson family. They should be baptized. Elder wood & Kellersberger are also teaching the sister of one of the members. She's very receptive. So receptive, she came to the Elders and asked to be baptized.

Friday September 5, 1969

We've been putting out a lot of BOMs in our area, but it seems like nobody wants to listen, so far. We're bound to find somebody soon. It would be sure great to baptize a person again. I want to very much.

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Saturday September 6, 1969

We had several appointments today, but none of them held. We'll keep trying. Sooner or later we're bound to find somebody. I hope it's sooner. P.s. we put a "snake" in gran's bed tonight, rubber of course. It gave her the shock of a life time. Then she attacked us with hair shampoo.

Sunday September 7, 1969

What a wonderful day! Stake Conference was held today. IT was really great. President Robison was there. The 1st Counselor of the London Temple spoke also. There were a good 400 or 500 people there, possibly a couple hundred more. I don't know what the capacity of the Sunderland stake house is. Anyway, it was full. About 12:00, as an added surprise, they asked 2 recent converts to bear their testimonies and 1 missionary to bear testimony there. I was the one they chose. There were 34 missionaries there. It was quite a surprise. I haven't been so nervous and shaky for months. The whole meeting was very inspirational for everyone. Then, this afternoon, Elder McCormack and I taught a 1st discussion to Miss Stelling. She's receptive. I hope we can make it with her. She'd be a wonderful member.

Monday September 8, 1969

For our full day preparation day, we had a "miniature zone conference" with just the district. IT was interesting. We played basketball all afternoon; tonight we went to see the play "H.M.S. Pinafore" by the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company. It was really good. It enjoyed it very much. So did everyone.

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Tuesday September 9, 1969

Elder McCormack and I taught a 2nd discussion in our own area today. The family seems receptive, Mr. & Mrs. Gill. I hope so. We need people to baptize. The district fasted today for investigators in Peterlee.

Wednesday September 10, 1969

This afternoon we tracted with Elder Proudlove & Elder Miles without much success. They want baptisms very much also. Tonight we worked with Elder Kellersberger & Elder Wood in Peterlee. I interviewed Valerie Price for baptisms & helped to teach her a 6th discussion. She accepted. Last night brother & sister Stevenson accepted a 6th also. So they're going to be baptizing 3 on September the 19th.

Thursday September 11, 1969

Today Elder McCormack & I worked with Elder Heygood & Elder Heaps in South Shields. They're not getting along too good. Their personalities are too different. It's been kind of a hectic day.

Friday September 12, 1969

I received a transfer in the mail today. I'm going to the Sheffield District to the D.L. there. I leave tomorrow. What a sudden change of events! I spent most of today preparing to leave. We did teach a 1st discussion though...

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..It wasn't very fruitful. Mrs. Armstrong is a strong Catholic and won't change.

Friday September

Saturday September 13, 1969

I left Sunderland at 11:00 and got Sheffield about 3:00 today. Elder Fenwick was out with some of the members all day Saturday, today. He didn't come in until 9:30. He seems like a good Elder. I hope we get along well.

Sunday September 14, 1969

Today we had 6 investigators out to church. We taught them a 1st discussion before Sunday School began. I think their names are Osborne. Right after it started, Elder Fenwick & I went to Worksop to speak at the Sacrament meeting. The Elders in Worksop, Sullivan & Norton, had an investigator out to church. They meet in an upstairs room of an insurance company building. It was a good meeting.

Monday September 15, 1969

Today was mostly an "organization" day. We had to buy all sorts of things to keep ourselves organized. I should say get organized. Tonight we taught a 2 ½ hour 2nd discussion to a girl of about 22 & her boyfriend. They're nice, but not very spiritual. They could improve. I hope so.

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Tuesday September 16, 1969

What a great day! The district went from Sheffield to Leeds to attend zone conference. Elder Spencer W. Kimball was there. The train had an hour delay and we were about 15 minutes late. In between halves, Elder Kimball talked to all the D.L.'s (district leaders) and D.L.C.'s (district leader companions). It was inspiring to be preached to and counseled by him. He's one of the apostles of the Lord. I know he is with all my heart.

Wednesday September 17, 1969

This morning Elder Fenwick and I taught a revised 2nd to Mrs. & Mrs. Scafe. Their 200 yrs. old son is interested she says. So we're going to call back. This afternoon we tracted with Elders Brewster & Merrill in their area of Sheffield. Brother Addis & I worked with them tonight also. We had a good proselyting time.



Elder Brewster

Elder Fenwick

Thursday September 18, 1969

Elder Fenwick and I worked with Boggess & Stead today. It seems like we have some very good Elders in the district. I hope we can really "enthuse" them. That's what this district needs. We need to baptize. Elder Fenwick and I want to baptize very much. Before long, the Lord is sure to bless us with people to teach.

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Friday September 19 & Saturday September 20

Where have these two days gone? In fact where has the last 20 months gone? It doesn't seem any time since I first started my mission and now it's in its latter stages. There isn't any feeling of time passing on. It's one continual "today". I love the church and the gospel and I know that it is true.

Sunday September 21, 1969

Today was stake conference in Huddersfield. The bus we took went through Barnsley and I got to see all the Barnsley Branch Members again. It was sure good to see them. Brother Ramsden was there. I talked to him most of the time. The main speaker was the President of the London Temple, Brother McEwan. He's a great man. Today has been a marvelous day. The conference was held in Huddersfield. Tonight we had dinner at Brother & Sister Gilmore's. It was good.

Monday September 22, 1969

For Preparation Day, we really prepared. We cleaned & took care of 1001 odd jobs. Then when the district got together, we played tennis, golf, and American football. It was a lot of fun. The Elders all enjoyed themselves. I hope can have more good days like today. It's just been great.

Tuesday September 23, 1969

Today we worked in Workshop with Elder Sullivan and Norton. I taught a girl a 5th discussion with Elder Norton. She's ready to be baptized, if her parents will sign. Her name is Karie Simmonds. IF they will, they'll baptize her on Sunday. She has a great testimony.



Elder Sullivan



Elder Norton

Wednesday September 24, 1969

Today has really been a great day. We got up at 5:00 a.m. and left here at 6:00. First we went to Huddersfield, then to Bradford then to Leeds, then to Harrogate for a District Leaders conference. Elder Despain & Elder Mack spoke to us and then President Robison did also. We then reversed our tracks back. We drove straight to Chesterfield after I let all the other D.L.'s off at their various towns. The Chesterfield Elders, Hadlock & Drew had an "open house" tonight. They showed the film "Portrait of a Prophet". It's a great film. I was the closing speaker. Briefly, I said if there ever comes a time when, for some reason, you can't think of anything to say, bear your testimony and the words will come. I did, and so did the words. It was a great meeting.

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Thursday September 28, 1969

We worked this morning and afternoon with Elders Boggess & Stead. They're a good team (they work in Sheffield). I hope they'll be able to baptize before long. Tonight we called on a referral that is real good. His name is David Russell. He seems very receptive. We gave him a BOM. When we call back, we'll see how it goes with him.

Friday September 26, 1969

This morning and afternoon, Elder Fenwick and I would with Elders Merrill & Brewster here in Sheffield. We had a good time. They're both good Elders. Tonight we went to the "Mustard Seed" café. That a religious café setup up to attract young people. They have a Bible study group, which we showed "What is A Mormon". Then they asked us all sorts of questions, some intelligent, some kind of dumb. IT was a good evening. We bore strong testimony of the BOM. It seemed to "excite" them a bit to find out that the Bible is not complete, which is the opposite of one of the Bible study classes's teachings, which have the only true interpretation. For myself though, I know that Joseph Smith was right.

Saturday September 27, 1969

Today we went to Rotherham. We called on referrals and visited the Howell's. They gave us tea, a salad, at 5:30. They're good people. We're going to be baptizing Zoe...

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...before long, two weeks on Monday. Tonight we taught a 1st discussion to Mrs. Blackburn in Rotherham. She accepted the Challenge. She's a real good lady. Sister Hall, a strong Rotherham member, said she'll bring Mrs. Blackburn to church tomorrow. She will, too.

Sunday September 28, 1969

This afternoon, 6 neighborhood children, around the church, asked me if they could come to Sunday School; that was at about 1:00. At 2:30 they all went to Sunday School and stayed very quiet. Their average age is 8 or 9. Sister Hall and her 2 children and Mrs. Blackburn with 4 of hers came to Sunday School. Mrs. Blackburn said she was engrossed in the class. I'm glad. Tonight we visited the Gilmore's, who Elder Fenwick baptized. We played them "Miracles" by Matthew Cowley. They really enjoyed it.

Monday September 29, 1969

Today was a "free day". We didn't meet with the district. Instead we took care of a lot of essentials. Then we waxed the car. About 2:30 we went and played tennis. It was fun! I sure did enjoy it. It relaxed me quite a bit.

Tuesday September 30, 1969

This morning we worked with Elder Drew and Hadlock in Chesterfield. Drew just transferred over from the Irish Mission. That's a very hard mission. We had quite a talk this morning. This afternoon we went to Worksop to work with Elders Sullivan & Norton. They weren't home. They had gone out to see an investigator. While we waited for them, we tracted in their area and placed a BOM. I hope it returns some results.

Wednesday October 1, 1969

Boy, time moves on. A brand new month and the old one isn't finished yet. – It hardly seems possible that the time could go by so rapidly, and yet it's gone. This afternoon we worked with Boggess & Stead here in Sheffield. Some of the people we talked to are very good people. We're looking for families in October that will be baptized.

Thursday October 2, 1969

This afternoon we, Elder Fenwick & I, worked with Merrill and Brewster here in Sheffield. I tracted with Elder Brewster. They're a good team. They should baptize before long. They're teach a lot of find people. Tonight we called ...

...on a Mrs. Hawley. She's not baptized, but attended church from 1964 to 1968. Then her feelings go hurt and she doesn't want to come now. It's too bad things like that happen. I know the church is true.

Friday October 3, 1969

Elder Fenwick and I tracted in our own area all day today. We met a catholic lady, Mrs. Fortune. She invited us to come back & teach her and her children a Family Home Evening. Her children are all under 7 yrs. age. I enjoy tracting tremendously. The more experience we get at it, the more I like it.

Saturday October 4, 1969

This afternoon we went to Rotherham and visited Zoe Howell and the Osbornes. We showed Zoe and Carol & Sister Howell "Mormons in the British Isles". Mr. Howell was there also. They gave us a meat pie. They're good people. I wish Mr. & Mrs. Howells would join the church. It would benefit them so much.

Sunday October 5, 1969

Today has been a great day. From 2:00 to 4:00 and from 5:00 – 7:00 we listened to General Conference from Salt Lake City....

...I know that church leaders are inspired. One couldn't doubt that after hearing them speak. Each of them said something which I needed to hear. Elder Fenwick tape recorded it. We're going to listen to it over again. President Robison & Elder Mack came to Sheffield to do some interviewing. Brother Ramsden and the Barnsley Branch came to Sheffield to listen to conference. Brother Ramsden gave me some slides of the Lake District. Tonight we taught Mrs. Blackburn and her 3 children a family home evening. They liked it very much. We're going to call back and teach a 1st discussion next week.

Monday October 6, 1969

Today the district had a real enjoyable time. We played English football, soccer, all afternoon. Everyone got nice and tired and loved it. Tonight Elder Fenwick & Mike Fisher taught a 1st discussion which wasn't too hot while John Greenfield & I taught a 3rd discussion to the Baxters. They're going to try and live the word of wisdom. It'll be great when they stop using their "fags" and start making themselves healthy. Some times people ask why the word of wisdom? I know it's from God, that's why.

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Tuesday October 7, 1969

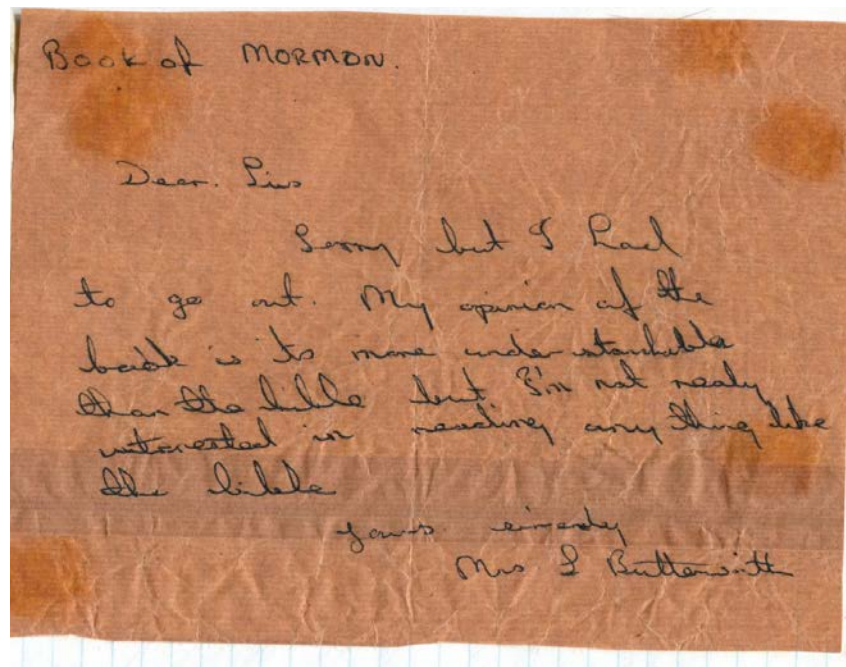
This afternoon we worked with Merrill & Brewster. Elder Merrill & I taught a 1st discussion to a lady who was at conference on Sunday. Her name is Susan Selby. Her boy, however, was so noisy that I had to "go see his pictures" while Elder Merrill taught the apostasy, and visa versa while I taught the restoration.. She accepted the commitment to be baptized. I think she's a real nice lady.

Wednesday October 8, 1969

We tracted this morning and afternoon in our own area. We talked to some very nice people at the doors. We'll find a convert before long. Elder Fenwick and I took a train to Worksop and worked with Sullivan & Norton. Elder Norton & Fenwick taught two 2nd discussions and Sullivan & I went out and saw the Radfords, a family of 7 people. They're good people, but they lack initiative, and don't respond to a challenge. I hope they'll read the BOM. It took us 20 minutes of challenging to get him to promise to read 50 pages.

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The only thing on this page is a sample of a typical "Pack-In" note. This one from Mrs. L. Butterworth.



Book of mormon.

Dear Sirs

Sorry but I had
to go out. My opinion of the
book is its more understandable
than the bible but I'm not really
interested in reading anything like
the bible

Yours sincerely
Mrs L Butterworth

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Thursday October 9, 1969

Elder Fenwick and I tracted and called on referrals in our own area today. It rained cats & dogs a couple of days ago, but with that one exception the weather has been fantastic for months now. It hasn't rained for ages. Tonight Elder Boggess & I taught a 3rd discussion to a family they should be baptized. Boggess & Stead are doing really good work. They should be baptizing before long.

Friday October 10, 1969

This morning and afternoon, we worked in Chesterfield with Elder Drew and Hadlock. Elder Drew has been transferred to Manchester. We helped them move to new digs, also. The rest of the day we called on referrals and tracted. Tonight Elder Fenwick and I called on 3 appointments. We talked to one of them for about an hour. We bore testimony that the BOM is true and explained to him that it contains God's plan for living. I know that it's true! The plan that has been revealed to the earth is so simple and yet it answers so many of the important questions of life. People would be so much happier if they would only seek these things out for themselves. This is God's church and we have his plan.

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Saturday October 11, 1969

We visited David Russell in the Royal Infirmary today. We've seen him 2 or 3 times this week. He's a contact of ours. After that, we called on referrals out in Rotherham & Mexborough. Late this afternoon, we went to Zoe Howells. She's only 10, but she's ready for baptism. I believe she'll actively remain in the church.

Sunday October 12, 1969

Tonight we had a spiritual development meeting at Brother & Sister Gilmore's. The whole district was there (10 Elders). We listened to a couple of real good tapes and hear some fine testimonies. We also set goals, as a district and as missionary teams. The Gilmores then cooked us all some hamburgers and we broke our fast.

Monday October 13, 1969

Today we worked in our area. We loaned 5 BOMs to some good people. Two or three of the people we talked to were very receptive. Tonight we baptized Zoe Howells. A boy and girl from Lancaster were also baptized. It was a very good meeting. Zoe's brother, Elon, and sister, Carol, were two of the main speakers. Elder Fenwick also gave a talk. I conducted.

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Tuesday October 14, 1969

Today was our "preparation day". The highlight of it was at 12:30 when President and Sister Robison and the assistants, Mack & Despain came down to Sheffield. They held a district conference and President Robison interviewed us all. He's a great man. I've grown to love him and appreciate him. Today's the "day of all days" because they were here. The district went bowling and we took in a movie tonight.

Wednesday October 15, 1969

Elder Fenwick and I taught 3 1st discussions in our area today. One to a Mrs. Brough & daughter, Julie. They were good, but need to have more faith. The next was to a Mr. & Mrs. Pigoth. Mr. Pigott seems very keen. The 3rd one was to Mrs. Fortune & her 3 children. She's a brainwashed catholic. I like her and she likes us, but she is so indoctrinated, she was giving us memorized answers to questions we didn't ask, so it was tough to get across a 1st discussion. She's still a nice lady. I've really enjoyed teaching today. It's very rewarding. Elder Fenwick is a real good man. His teaching is plain and simple and very humble. He's a good missionary. I love him.

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Thursday October 16, 1969

This morning we worked with Elders Boggess & Stead. They presented to us a 1st discussion from before we worked with them. They'll be baptizing soon. Tonight we read the Baxters a pamphlet called "You Can Stop Smoking and Like It.". It helped them. They're going to come to church on Sunday. Finally, once they make a promise, they kept it. So they should be there. They're "salt of the earth" people. I love them.

Friday October 17, 1969

We worked with 3 teams today. Morning: Merrill & Brewster. They'll be baptizing soon. I'm glad. Afternoon: Norton & Sullivan in Worksop. Sullivan has been transferred to Scunthorpe as D.L.C. (district leaders companion). I taught a 4th discussion with Elder Norton. Tonight: Hadlock & Germaine in Chesterfield. They're doing well also. We have a good district here. I'm really grateful for the Elders the Lord has placed here.

Saturday October 18, 1969

Today we looked up referrals from Sheffield to Rotherham. We didn't turn up anybody to teach. Elder Fenwick & I will keep on looking for some to bring into the gospel. I know that there are people here and the Lord will help us find them.

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Sunday October 19, 1969

I've been thinking today about a few goals that I want to achieve in my life. These are my personal wants. First: to stay true to the ideals of the gospel all my life; to be earnestly strive, always to improve myself; to remain idealistic and maintain high standards. To shape my life to correspond with the gospel requirements. To having a continuing education; to keep my mind active and alert so that I may always learn; to be willing to learn; to learn my own faults and not condemn others for mistakes that I make & faults that I have. To be an example of good living so others will glorify God. May God help me to achieve these goals.

Monday October 20, 1969

Today we played football at Grays Park. It was really a lot of fun. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed it. Tonight, Elder Fenwick and I worked with John Greenfield and Mike Fisher. Mike and I primarily called on referrals. We gave away one BOM to a lad about 17 or 18 years old. I sure hope he takes time to read it. Mike is about 26 yrs. old, has a beard, and looks like Brigham Young. He also wants to go on a mission.

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Tuesday October 21, 1969

Elder Fenwick and I tracted in our own area today. We met some good people. About 3:00 we went to Middlewood Hospital and taught David Russell, a male nurse, a 2nd discussion. It went down really well. He's real enthused about the gospel so far. Tonight we taught the Baster's a 4th discussion, but they're not living the word, attending church, or reading, so their testimony isn't growing. They're wonderful people, but just not willing to put forth the effort.

Wednesday October 22, 1969

Today Elder Fenwick got a transfer; he's been made District Leader of Hull. We around to all the teams and told them we'd be unable to work with them this week because of the transfer. We've been busy all day. We've also found a new place to move into. We'll probably move in on Monday.

Thursday October 23, 1969

Elder Fenwick left on the train at 9:30. I've been busy as a dog all day. Our landlady says we have to leave today, so that means packing up everything and moving it somewhere. Elder McCracken arrived here about 3:30 or 4:00. He was with the Zone Leader, Elder Bott & Elder Perry...

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...We called on a few referrals tonight, then found ourselves a place to stay at Bishop Bell's of the Sheffield Ward. He's a great man. We're very glad he's let us stay with him.

Friday October 24, 1969

Elder McCracken and I taught a 1st discussion to a Mrs. Armitage this morning. She accepted it very well. Tonight we taught David Russell a 3rd discussion. He gave us his cigarettes, but he's going to have a hard time living it because he isn't convinced it's a commandment. He would be, if he'd only read the BOM. I know he would.

Saturday October 25, 1969

Elder McCracken and I went out making call backs this morning. This afternoon we picked up a new Elder from the States, Nevada. His name is Peterson. We drove him out to Worksop to his new companion, Elder Nelson. I think Elder Peterson is going to be all right. Tonight we worked with Elder Merrill & Haglund. They've got a good area. In fact, this entire district is great. The Elders here should be baptizing very soon now.

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Sunday October 26

We moved into our new flat today. It took us a few hours to do it. We missed priesthood. Sunday School and Sacrament Service were very good. None our investigators came to church, but was very enlightening. We're teaching some fine people. I hope we can get them out to church before long. That's how most people are: they'll listen, but doing things is sometimes hard. In other words, active faith is what they need.

Monday October 27, 1969

This morning we filled out reports and wrote a few letters. This afternoon we went bowling. It was a lot of fun. Elder McCracken had a 192 and I had a 197 high. Tonight we played David Russell "Profile of A Prophet". Then he packed us in. He's not willing to make an effort right now.

Tuesday October 28, 1969

This morning we taught a 2nd discussion to Mrs. Armitage. She accepted it pretty well. We're going to try to teach her husband. This afternoon we worked in Worksop with the new missionary, Elder Peterson & Elder Nelson. Elder Peterson is a ...

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...good missionary. He's come well prepared in his attitudes for missionary work. Elder Nelson is a good senior companion for him. They should do well together. Tonight we went to Chesterfield and I worked with Elder Keith Sullivan, who was once in the Lakes and Elder McCracken worked with Elder Germaine. Sullivan & I taught a 2nd and had 2 meetings with referrals. He's a good missionary. I really enjoy his spirit.

Wednesday October 29, 1969

We've taught 9 discussion so far this week. It's great. We've taught 5 discussions today. I love the gospel. It's wonderful to teach it to people. We also went to Doncaster today and taught a lad about the BOM. He's interested. We'll be teaching him a 1st on Saturday. It's been a great day. It's too bad we can't tape record all the talks and discussions that we have with people. It would be very enlightening, either one way or the other.

Thursday October 30, 1969

This morning we went to Merrill & Hoglund's. Elder Merrill & I went to Susan Selby's. We played her the tape "Miracles". She enjoyed it. She's going to be baptized on November the 10th. This afternoon...

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...we worked with Boggess & Steed. I taught a 1st discussion with Elder Steed to a real fine family. They promised to come to church on Sunday. Tonight Elder McCracken & I showed a film "What is a Mormon" to a young family. They invited a friend over to see it. Unknown to the Pigotts, and us, this "friend" was a scripture basher and an anti-mormon and anti-everything almost. He wouldn't stop talking or firing questions at all. We literally couldn't talk to the Pigotts. It was a bad scene!

Friday October 31, 1969

This morning we made a return appointment with Mrs. Armitage for another discussion. She's good. Then this afternoon we taught Mrs. Vaughton a 1st discussion. She accepted it very well. She knows Jean & Gary Harrison (way up in Carlisle) very good. They're cousins. In fact, the last time they had seen each other, Jean had just been baptized. Mrs. Vaughton sincerely wants to know the truth of our message. We've talked to her husband, but he's not bothered. Tonight we showed the film "What is a Mormon" to Julie (11 yrs. old), Linda (9 yrs. old) and David Armitage (5 yrs. old) at their grandparents house. They all want to come out to church and find out what it's all about. I pray we can have the blessing of baptizing all these fine people.

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Saturday November 1, 1969

My monthly check came today. That's good news, because I'm about \$35 behind. I owe the mission home 15 pounds. Oh well, things always work out right in the end. Elder McCracken and I went to Dorcaster today and taught a 1st discussion to Gary Allen and 2 of his friends, Robert and Steve. Gary's very receptive, Robert is critical and Steve isn't interested enough in religion to have mean very much to him. We're getting through to Gary. He's only 16, though and we might have parent trouble. I hope not. He'd make a good member of the church. He's humble, sincere, intelligent, and clean-cut. (P.S. I hope Mother & Dad had a happy anniversary today).

Sunday November 2, 1969

Sunday School & Fast and Testimony meeting were both good today. There were between 50 & 60 in attendance. This afternoon we worked on reports, etc. Tonight we attended a Fireside at Brother Coopers on the importance of music in the church. It was interesting.

Monday November 3, 1969

After district meeting today, we ice skated for an hour and bowled for the rest of the afternoon. We've got a great district of Elders here. They're all spiritually inclined.

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Tuesday November 4, 1969

This afternoon we had the privilege of working with Elders Hoglund & Germaine. Elder Hoglund is Swedish. He's a very smart fellow. He speaks 5 foreign languages. It's a memorable experience to be able to work with the Elders. I love doing it.

Wednesday November 5, 1969

Today we worked with Elders Boggess and Steed, the other Sheffield team. They're going to be baptizing soon. In fact the whole district should be baptizing soon. I forgot to mention it, but Susan Selby, one of Elder Merrill & Hoagland's' projections, wants me to baptize her this coming Monday. It's a real good experience. It's the first time something like this has happened.

Thursday November 6, 1969

We worked with Elder Sullivan and Germaine down in Worksop all morning and afternoon today. They're doing fine work. They're also teaching people that should be baptized. They're out in Chesterfield. Tonight we went over to Worksop and worked with Elder Peterson and Elder Nelson. Elder Peterson ...

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...has had a few problems adjusting to the missionary life, but nothing serious. He's having trouble learning the discussions. They're teaching some really great Scottish people. The Mullens have got a testimony of the gospel. They should be baptized in two weeks. It's great to have everyone in the district on the road to baptisms.

Friday November 7, 1969

Mrs. Vaughton packed us in today. Her family is putting too much pressure on her. She doesn't want to make anyone in her family upset; that's her reason. She's still very interested in the church; just too much pressure at home. Well, we're about the only ones without somebody to definitely baptize a person or family. Before long, though, I'm sure the Lord will bless us.

Saturday November 8, 1969

Elder McCracken and I went to Doncaster today to see Gary Allen. He's decided not to do anything at present about the church. His father is afraid that taking up a new religion might interfere with his school studies....

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...I hope Gary will pursue it later. He said he would when he turned 18. We also talked to two referrals here in Sheffield. One was a man & wife, about 60 yrs. old who Sunday just returned from a 6 months tour of America and Canada. They said the Grand Canyon was the most beautiful thing they've ever see, and they've travelled all over the world. The other is a college girl named Marianna Williams, who is doing a college thesis on Mormonism. She's already got a copy of "The Mormons" by Robert Mullen, "Truth Restored" by Hinckley, "Book of Mormon", an LDS press book for newspapers and a few others. We're going to teach her. She lives in a college dorm with about 2 or 3 hundred other college girls. She seems interested. The district phone in reports tonight, as usual between 10:00 and 10:45. Everyone except Boggess & Steed phoned in.

Sunday November 9, 1969

Today was branch conference. It was very inspiring. Stake President Livesay spoke, as well as his counselor. There is a lot of strength and understanding in this Stake Presidency. IT was a very inspiring meeting. By the way, it snowed today.

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Monday November 10, 1969

This morning Elder McCracken and I called on a couple of appointments, then we went up town. Elder McCracken had his picture taken at a photographers. We then had a district meeting at the Sheffield ward building. This afternoon the district went to a move, "Lion in Winter". Tonight Elder Merrill & Elder Hogleund baptized Susan Selby. I was privileged to perform the actual baptism, but they taught her. It was a good service.

Tuesday November 11, 1969

We worked with Elder Boggess & Elder Steed this afternoon. Elder Steed & I showed a film to the Saywells. We showed them "Mormons in the British Isles". He and I also taught a 2nd discussion to a lady. She wants to learn more. Tonight Elder McCracken & I called on Mrs. Renshaw, but she packed us in. We called on a man who has been to the Hawaiian temple. We talked to his sister instead. He won't be home until next week. I hope we can find the people we're looking for.

Wednesday November 12, 1969

Today we tracted all day with Elder Merrill & Hogleund, and it's been ...

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...raining cats 'n dogs the past few days. But, like postmen, that doesn't slow us down. Tonight we called on a few referrals in Rotherham. We're going to return next Monday to teach a 1st hopefully. This district is doing great. I love it here. It's wonderful. We shall do more than we've already done. (P.S. I received a bunch of photos from home and a letter from Vic Anderson. Vic goes home tomorrow. Grant Jensen went home last week.

Thursday November 13, 1969

We tracted & taught 2nd discussions with Elders Nelson & Peterson this morning and afternoon. Elder Peterson is starting to settle in good. He's having trouble learning his discussions, but other than that, he's doing fine. The zone leader came by our place with supplies, but we were out in Worksop & Chesterfield, so he left them all in front of the door of our flat.

Friday November 14, 1969

Elder McCracken & I taught a 3rd discussion to Grace Armitage today. Mrs. Armitage said that she'd try to live it. She's gaining a testimony. This afternoon we traveled out to Deep Carr and taught Mrs. & Mrs. Brearly a 1st discussion. They couldn't accept it. They're good people, though. Tonight, we went by Marianna Williams...

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...to teach her a 1st discussion, but her mother has taken sick, and she went home to take care of her. She'll be back in a few days. I lost my Bible while we were out there. I don't know where it is or who has it. I sure hope we find it.

Saturday November 15, 1969

This afternoon we called on referrals out in Dorcaster. We didn't find anyone who was receptive to our message however. My birthday checks from home & Grandad arrived today. It was a real surprise.

Sunday November 16, 1969

What a day! First we prepared talks this morning to give in Worksop Branch tonight. Then we had lunch at Brother & Sister Eady's. Afterwards we attended the opening exercises at the Branch, then drove to Worksop. It's been snowing all day. The car engine got wet and we barely made it there. The talks went well. I talked on putting your beliefs into action. Then I interviewed brother and Sister Mullan for baptism. Elder Nelson and Elder Peterson are going to baptize them. They're very fine people and have a very strong testimony.. We drove back in 1st and 2nd gear, because of the engine and taught Mrs. Bramwell a 1st discussion....

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...She didn't accept the apostasy but thinks the restoration is possible. She's going to read the BOM and pray about it. If she's going to get an answer, she'll have to develop more confidence in herself, though.

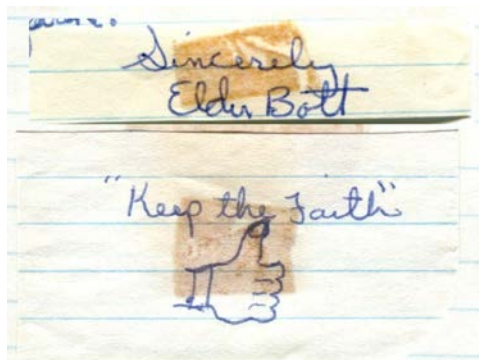
Monday November 17, 1969

All this morning we wrote letters and talked to Kahn, our Pakistani landlord. He's really great. The only way to describe him to say he's "cool". This afternoon we went bowling. Tonight we drove out to Wath-Upon-Dearne to teach a 1st to a Quaker family named Holton. We gave them a BOM last week. Elder McCracken explained the BOM for about 5 minutes. He said something the man didn't agree with so the man literally jumped out of his chair, opened his front door and told us to leave. Just like that. So we left. He did all of that in front of two other guests of his and two of his children. What an example. I hope I never set such a poor example for my children (kids). He was absolutely unfair.

Today was quite a day! First of all, this morning we played Grace Armitage "Miracles" by Matthew Cowley. She enjoyed it. We're hoping to get her out church on Sunday. Then at noon we went to the hospital and had a lump of fat removed from my upper left arm. It was done in just a few minutes. This afternoon we tracted. The people were very nice and friendly and we loaned out two Books of Mormon. Tonight Elder McCracken & I talked to another one of Jean Harrison's cousins, a member in Carlisle. Mr. & Mrs. Ward are very receptive. They're going to let us teach them a 1st discussion next week. The zone leader, Elder Bott & Elder Southwick, his companion, slept overnight with us tonight. They're going to Chesterfield tomorrow. P.S. My arm took about 4 or 5 stitches. Boy is it sore.



Elder Jerry Glen Bott, Zarahemla Zone Leader, Bradford District
He always ended a letter or phone call with "Keep the Faith".



Tuesday November 19, 1969

It's hard to believe that I'm finally 21 yrs. old. I don't feel any older. Anyway, this morning we tracted with Elder Boggess & Elder Steed. This afternoon we took them with us over to Merrill & Hoglund's area. Then we all split up. Elder Merrill & I tracted, Elder Hoglund & Steed tracted and Elder Boggess & Steed taught a 1st & 2nd ...

...to Marian Williams, a college girl, and 4 of her friends. They've very interested. Tonight we called on a referral that Elder Peter & Elder Nelson in Worksop found when they worked with the zone leader, Elder Bott. They're golden. Mrs. Hill has read the Book of Mormon & part of the D&C. Peter, 12 yrs. old, is smart as a whip and is interest, and Ann, 17 yrs. old has read into 2nd Nephi. Mrs. Hill already has a testimony. Mrs. Hill isn't interested, but he'll let them join if they want. What a way to celebrate my birthday, find a golden family. By the way, I got a birthday card from Aunt Mary today also. She sent me \$5. But it's the thought that counts. I love her. I love my family also.

Note: Elder Jerry Glen Bott, the Zarahemla zone leader, Bradford District Leader, always ended a letter or phone call with "Keep The Faith". He did and will (In fact, he rose at 5:30 every morning, instead of 6:00).

Thursday November 20, 1969

This morning we tracted with Elder Sullivan & Elder Germaine in Chesterfield. Then we took them with us to Worksop to Elders Nelson & Peterson's area. I went with Nelson, Sullivan went with Peterson, & McCracken went with Germaine. We all tracted. Everything added up, the 3 teams placed 9 BOMS. Then tonight, Elder Peterson & I visited the Mullans, to fill out their baptism recommends and also a German lady, who said she'd come to church on Sunday. She's 70 years old. This has...

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...been a day to remember. I've really enjoyed it. So did everyone else.

Friday November 21, 1969

This morning Elder McCracken & I taught Mrs. Armitage a 4th discussion. She's living all of the word of Wisdom except cigarettes. She finds them very difficult to give up. Her testimony is growing stronger every week. I hope she can develop the will power to quit. This afternoon we tracted and loaned out 2 BOMs, then we called on a referral that Brother Eady gave us. It's a good one. We made a return appointment to teach a 1st to Mr. & Mrs. Dugdale. The Lord is blessing us in this area with several find people to teach. We all the success we've been having to the Lord's blessing us. P.S. It's been raining today.

Saturday November 22, 1969

This has been a great day. We went to went to Worksop to Nelson & Peterson's. Then we all went over, with the branch members, to Scunthorpe to baptize the Mullens. We got there at 2:15. The Relief Society held a Christmas bazaar all afternoon....

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...While that was on, Elder Peterson & I went to Scunthorpe Town Center and Street surveyed. We missed all the food, but our feast was more delicious. We talked to some very fine people. The service started at 7:00. It went very smoothly. The spirit was there. It's a humbling experience to see people like them join the church. When we got back to Worksop, we had to wait for about an hour and a half for the 11:15 bus to Sheffield. We finally made it home at 12:30. Every minute of the day has been worthwhile, I feel. We'll do anything to get people baptized.

Sunday November 23, 1969

Tonight at Sacrament Meeting, I had the privilege of being the main speaker. They told me about 5 hours before the service began. I spoke on the Courage of Christ. The spirit was there. It touched the hearts of everyone. John Greenfield's eyes were most. Everyone told me how they were affected by it. I'm not bragging. The Holy Ghost helped me. At 8:00 tonight we held a spiritual development meeting at the Ward building in Hackenthorpe. The theme was goals. We set our goal, as a district, to baptize 22 by the first of the year. Also, I committed everyone to make the hourly ...

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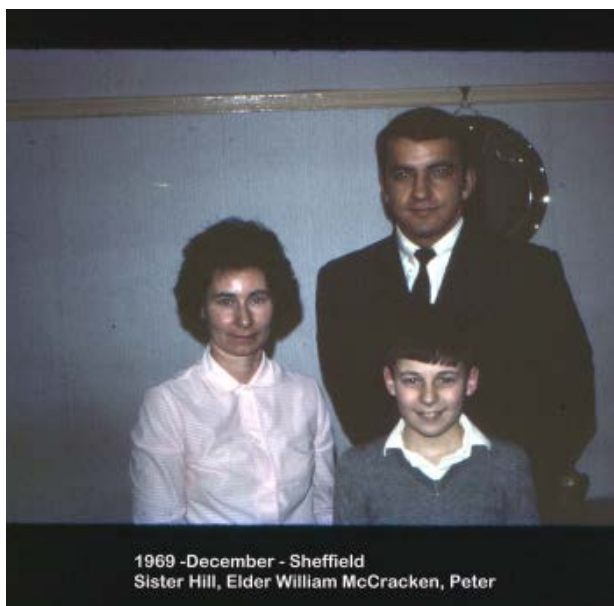
...goals the week before the week of Christmas and the week after Christmas. To the missionary work and spirit, it's vital they work during this period.

Monday November 24, 1969

Today we shopped briefly and called on 2 BOM loans. Both packed us in. This afternoon, Elder Boggess & I taught a very good 1st discussion to a family. Then tonight, Elder McCracken, myself and Mike Fisher taught Mrs. Hill, Peter, and Ann a 1st discussion. Mrs. Hill has already read the BOM, part of the D&C and Truth Restored. The children are very keen on the church. It was a good evening. We're looking forward to baptizing them. Sister Hill's literally jumping into the water.

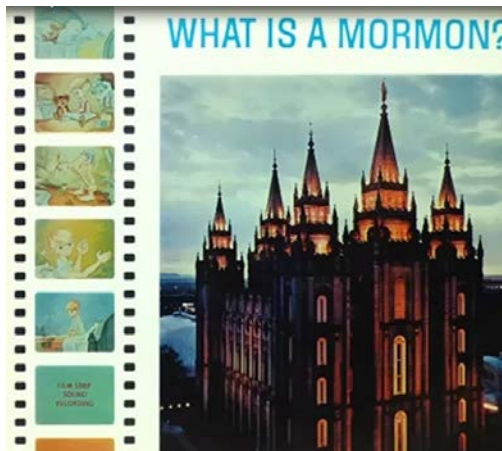
Tuesday November 25, 1969

Today was our full day preparation day. The entire Zarahemla & Moroni Zones (60 Elders) combined and had a Thanksgiving dinner in Leeds. We had corn on the cob, turkeys, fruit salad, and pumpkin pie. There was more than anyone could eat. Everybody was literally stuffed and there was still a turkey and a half left over. Everybody met with each other also. The day has been really great.



Wednesday November 26, 1969

Before we left this morning, Mrs. Hill came over and gave us each a Thanksgiving present, a box of handkerchiefs. It's the first present for Thanksgiving I've had. Also today, at noon, we washed & waxed the car. Then we showed Marian Williams and two of her friends "What is a Mormon". They got a lot out of it. Tonight we gave a revised 2nd to Julie Ward & her husband, friends of Jean Harrison up in Carlisle. They've agreed to let us give them the discussions. I hope they read the BOM now. They said they would.



Thursday November 27, 1969

Mostly, we tracted today. At lunch time, we had a Chinese dinner, to celebrate my birthday. Better late than never. Tonight we taught two discussion board second discussions. One to Mrs. & Mrs. Heald. They're interested in the BOM, but not in the church. I'm convinced Mrs. Heald will read it. Then we taught a 2nd to Dave & Maxine Clark and Hrs. Harrison (Maxine's mother). They bought the BOM and will read it and want to hear more. They're good people.

Friday November 28, 1969

The car battery was dead this morning, plus there was snow everywhere. We tried pushing the car, but no go. We got it started about 9:00. This afternoon we worked with Elders Nelson & Peterson (Worksop) & Sullivan & Germaine (Chesterfield). We all went out and tracted. It was a beautifully clear day, but very cold. Tonight I taught a family home evening to a family in Elder Heglund & Merrill's area. Elder McCracken & Merrill said they called back on a Catholic, Mrs. Green, who is searching for the truth. They said she's golden.

Saturday November 29, 1969

Tracting kept us busy all day today. We met one particularly fine lady, Mrs. Johnson. She's very receptive. Tonight we taught Sister Hill, Peter, and Ann a 3rd discussion. They accepted it beautifully. They asked us to baptize them tonight! Technically, they're not in our area, but they want us to teach them. Boggess & Steed said it was o.k. with them. We parked the car on a hill about a block away, so we could roll it and get it started. This cold weather makes it impossible to start an engine.



Sister Hill and Her son, Peter



Elder Craig Steed

Sunday November 30, 1969

When we went to start the car, we found someone had broken into it, unhooked the speedometer cable, and driven the car around. Nothing was taken. (We took all our valuables, cameras, etc., in last night). At least they left us with a half tank of petrol which wasn't there before. Marian Williams and Pam and Sharon came to Sunday School and Sacrament meeting. I think they liked it. By the way, brother and sister Eady had us over for lunch today. We had roast beef & Yorkshire pudding.

Monday December 1, 1969

For preparation day, we went bowling with the district. It was a lot of fun. I also held district interviews today. My monthly check from home arrived. Also, Aunt Mary sent me another \$5 check, which I much appreciate.

Tuesday December 2, 1969

Tonight we tracted, I mean, taught a lady a 1st discussion. She was very keen on it. It all makes sense to her. I think her husband will be a stumbling block. She won't do anything without her husband and her husband is an atheist. That's what has stopped many women from joining the church.

Wednesday December 3, 1969

What a surprise today. I got a transfer. I've been released as D.L. The area that I'm going to be in is Leeds. It's supposed to be a hard area, or one that hasn't produced in sometime. It'll be almost a new experience working out in "the field". Kahn, our Pakistani landlord is very sorry to see me going. He's a great guy. I think he's great.

Thursday December 4, 1969

I left Sheffield about 12:00 and got here to Leeds at 1:30. It's been a short transfer. My companion is Elder Hurst. He's from Salt Lake City. He's been sick the past few days. We had to stay in the rest of the day. We've had a spiritual feast though, by listening to a tape and reading articles out of the I.P. book.

Friday December 5, 1969

The D.L., Elder McNeil & Elder Weight worked with us this morning and afternoon. We put out 9 books. This is Elder McNeils' 2nd day as a D.L. Elder Hurst is still feeling real bad, physically. His cough is worse. I hope he recovers before long. We need to be on our feet as a team to get the Lord's work done.



Elder McNeil



Elder Weight

Saturday December 6, 1969

Today we did our laundry and took a shower. Then we tracted this afternoon. Elder Hurst and I placed 4 BOMs. Tonight we called on a referral, an American family. They work at the Air Force base near here. They don't like England, but they're nice.

Sunday December 7, 1969

Today was Stake Conference over in Huddersfield. We rode with the members by bus. Brother Taylor was the visiting authority. President (Stake) Livesy gave a good talk. So did President & Sister Robison. It was a very good conference. Then, here in Leeds, we had a testimony meeting. Sister Stodham had us and the missionary Sisters Meachen & Kempson over for tea. It was delicious. Especially her trifle. It's been a good day.



Sister Meachen



Sister Kempson (from Wales)



Sister Gale



Sister Ricks

Monday December 8, 1969

The assistants, Robinson & Hymus came to our District meeting. The D.L. , Elder McNeil, ran the meeting very well. We played basketball in the afternoon. Tonight Elder Hurst & I had an appointment, but we got packed in.

Tuesday December 9, 1969

This morning Elder Hurst & I taught a 2nd discussion to a lady, but we couldn't interest her. At noon, Elder Hurst went to the dentists – he had 6 or 7 fillings made (2 ½ hours almost). His mouth is really sore. We called by on a referral tonight. He's an American Indian & a professional wrestler. He's already a Mormon, but the people he's living with are not. We'll see them all again tomorrow. We've got to find a convert before very long.



Elder Carey Brent Hurst

Wednesday December 10, 1969

A professions wrestler, American, phoned the church on Sunday. He's a new member. His name is Billy White (billboard name – Whitewolf). He's travelled all around the world wrestling. We called on him today and promised we'd take him to church on Sunday. He's a real nice man. He's an Indian from Oklahoma, but he got his M.A. degree from Oregon. He's really a P.E. coach, but he's wrestling because he can see the world for free, all expenses paid for and get good money for wrestling.



Billy Whitewolf

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Thursday December 11, 1969

Elder Hurst received a transfer today. He's going to Halifax. That's only about 15 miles from here. I hope he enjoys it there.

Friday December 12, 1969

The D.L., Elder McNeil & Elder Weight, came and worked with us this afternoon & morning. We taught 2 BOM discussions and met some very fine people. Elder McNeil is going to make a good D.L. Elder Weight is also a good Elder. Elder Weight & I tracted this afternoon. We traced some very posh houses. Elder McNeil & I taught Mrs. Mumby a 2nd discussion. Afterward she gave each a small cactus plant, as a Christmas present.

Saturday December 13, 1969

Elder Hurst packed his bags this morning and left at 11:30. While I was waiting for Elder Hogan to arrive, I re-arranged the furniture in the front room and generally cleaned up. He was late in arriving. He got here at 6:00. We called on referrals tonight, but none of them were home. Elder Hogan seems like a good man. We should get along together.

Page 306

Sunday December 14, 1969

Elder Hogan & I picked up Billy Wolf, a new member from Hawaii (see page 304). He enjoyed it very much. He's a real nice man. He's the kind of person one would just naturally follow. I've got a lot of respect for him.

Monday December 15, 1969

Today was a work day. (Our preparation day will be on Wednesday, instead). We tracted this morning, and also taught a revised 2nd discussion. This afternoon we contacted a referral. She's Catholic, but very interested. She saw "Man's Search For Happiness" at an open house about 5 months ago. She's been in the hospital the last 4 months. She had cancer and had been given until the first of December to live. After 7 operations & 150 stitches, they managed to cure it. She's very happy about it. Tonight we contacted a school teacher, who was at the same open house. We gave him a BOM. Both of these people are definitely searching for something. I know they'll find it here. The gospel is now a part of me. The more experience that comes to me out here, the more I realize how little I know and just how imperfect I am. One of the hardest things to do is to be honest with yourself. Thanks to the gospel, I've got a better understanding of the type of person I want to be.

Page 307

We had a good tracting today. We loaned 5 BOMs and talked to one lady who was especially receptive. She invited us right in. Her name was Mrs. Wildman. Tonight we contacted two referrals. One is a lady about 25 yrs. old, a school teacher. She definitely wants to learn about the church. We have to wait until she returns from holiday, however. I'm grateful to be working here in Leeds. This area should bring forth a lot of fruit.

Wednesday December 17, 1969

Today was zone conference at the East Leeds chapel. About 70 Elders were there. Both the Zarahemla & Moroni zones were there. The assistants, Hymus and Robinson, gave the best, and most inspired, talks of any two assistants I've known. President Robison gave an inspired message. So did Sister Robison. Then they showed us the film "The Three Witnesses". It is very inspiring. President Robison conducted personal interviews. Every time I have a chance to talk to him, the more I love him. Tonight Elder Hogan & I called on a very interesting referral. The man said two years ago, summer '67, he talked to a Mormon friend for half an hour and his friend made out ...

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...a card for a free BOM. The post card took until June of 1969 to get to Harrogate. Curiously, it did not have a post mark on it. It's lain around uncalled on until tonight. They are a young family, and will be moving to California shortly. He's in aeronautics. They are very interested to read the BOM, but won't let us return. They sincerely & enthusiastically said yes they'd read it. I believe they will. The Book of Mormon is true.

Thursday December 18, 1969

We tracted all day today and met with quite a bit of success. We were invited back to teach by a 16 yr. old lad. His father told us he's not interested, but he knows a little about us and doesn't mind if his son has a lesson. The lad's name is Richard Eager. We called on a referral from a Polish lady, Zurowski. She wasn't home but her husband was. He's a strong Catholic, but doesn't interfere with religion. Their son showed quite a bit of interest, too.

Friday December 19, 1969

The D.L. and his companion came over to work with us today....

...Elder McNeil & I did put out any books this morning, but we did meet a lady who has been to church before and enjoyed it. She promised to come again. This afternoon it snowed. We got about 2" of snow. Elder Weight and I talked to some nice people but no appointments were made. Anyway, the snow is really beautiful. Maybe there'll be a "White Christmas" this year.

Saturday December 20, 1969

This morning Elder Hogan & I took a shower and later had a discussion with two school teachers. They're man and wife and both atheists. He's promised to read the BOM over the holidays. We then did our laundry and finished the rest of the day tracting. Finally, at 8:30, we met a very nice lady. Her & her family lived in Central America for 5 years and also in South America for 5 years. Her children are around the 12 yr. old mark. She's promised to read at least 50 pages before we call back.

Sunday December 21, 1969

The branch had its Christmas program this morning. It was really good. One boy, about 16 yrs. old has a speech...

Page 310

...problem, but he gets up and tries. That's what I call courage. He's always smiling. Tonight, Billy Wolf brought his promoter & his family to sacrament meeting, another Christmas program. They enjoyed it very much. It was a very good program.

Monday December 22, 1969

Elder Hogan & I went uptown today. I bought one suit and an overcoat. They're nice. It's been a beautiful day, weather wise, too. Tonight we got packed in by the husbands of two of our very "golden" ladies. It's too bad. A lot of husbands will have a lot to account for in the day of reckoning.

Tuesday December 23, 1969

Elder Hogan and I taught a 1st discussion to a 16 yr. old lad named Richard Eager. He's real nice, but doesn't believe there's a God. We'll be calling back on him about a month or so. He father sat through the discussion & interjected him comments (he's friendly). He used to do religious work in prison. He's interesting to talk to but he keeps getting off the subject. We spent the rest of the day tracting. We placed 5 books. Tonight we had a meal at Sister Gatehouse's. She's a very fine person; a bit lonely though.

Wednesday December 24, 1969

Elder Sorenson, the zone leader & Elder Clayton worked with us today. We tracted all day. People are very busy this time of year. Tonight the district went to see "The Sound of Music". It the greatest show I've seen in a long time. I loved the principles & standards it brings out. I feel very happy this year. The true Christmas spirit is here. If only everyone would try to enjoy the true meaning of Christmas.



Elder Sorenson

Thursday December 25, 1969

Billy & George & Ann had Elder Sorenson & I for Christmas Dinner (Elder Hogan has gone to Halifax for Christmas). We spent the afternoon there. They're really great people. Good cooks, too. Tonight the district went to the church. We first had a spiritual development meeting. It was good. Billy & Ann came just in time to hear the final talk. Then we had a great meal (corn on the cob, a mushroom & cheese dish, cake, tarts, 7-up, etc.). Then we sat around and talked. Elder Weight played the piano for us. He plays excellent. He sounds like Roger Williams. I think this has been the best Christmas ever for me. I'm thankful for it very much.

Page 312

Today was Boxing Day. I still haven't figured out why it's so special. Maybe someday. Trent's birthday is today. He's 7 (I think). It's been so long I've forgotten. (Wayne must be about 4). Time sure has flown quickly. It's unbelievable how fast my mission has past. I'm grateful for all it's meant to me and for all that it has done for me. It's been worth all this time and effort to change the lives of just a few good people.

Saturday December 27, 1969

Elder Hogan and I tracted most of the day. We didn't have too much success; but I did enjoy it.

Sunday December 28, 1969

A lot of people are down with the flu. About half of the branch, in fact. From What I've heard, it's spreading around all over. Some people from Halifax that Elder Hogan baptized came to Sacrament meeting tonight. Then we all went to Sister Gatehouse's and had some sandwiches and cake and milo. President Robison came over today and visited with us. He especially wanted to talk to Elder Hogan. I've no idea what they talked about. Just a few guesses.

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Monday December 29, 1969

I picked up one suit and 3 sweaters & a coat today. The total cost was about 25 pounds (\$60). Not bad value for your money. Tonight Elder Hogan and myself tracted up some very interesting people. One is a lady that's lived in Rhodesia for a few years (She's 34, now). She's invited us back for tomorrow night. We also loaned her a BOM. It should be interesting.

Tuesday December 30, 1969

We went over to Miss Banks' tonight. She had some dinner guests coming so we only had time to stay a half hour, but she is very interested. She kept asking us how she could become a missionary like us. Then she brought in her Alsatian dog. He's a pure black thoroughbred, and well trained too. We'll see her on Sunday, hopefully.

Wednesday December 31, 1969

Elder McNeil & Weight worked with us all morning and afternoon. Success was light, people are pretty busy. The snow is still on the ground, too. Tonight we saw "The Jungle Book". Then we went to Bill's. Ann had potato crisps, sausage pie, cashew nuts, candy, etc. We talked with them, listened to...

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...records and watched a bit of t.v. It was a pleasant way to bring in the new year. It doesn't seem possible another year has gone by. Time doesn't slow down for anybody.

Thursday January 1, 1970

We went to district meeting at the church at noon today. Then we all went bowling. I bowled 135 & 140. Not bad. It was fun, anyway. Tonight Elder Hogan & I called on a referral from the Austrian mission, but she wasn't in. The lady missionary who sent the referral in comes from Halifax, where Elder Hogan just came from. He knew her there.

Friday January 2, 1970

We tracted all day but didn't talk to anyone. We had an appointment tonight but it fell through.

Saturday January 3, 1970

Tonight Elders McNeil, Weight, Jessop & Richards came to our place for a surprise visit. I went out with Weight & Jessop & Richards and Elder Hogan went out with McNeil. We first went to a 6:00 dinner appointment. (I finished my tea

...about 5:30). Two big meals & desserts in one and a half hours is sufficient for me. The rest of the evening we spent at a part-member family's. We then waited at Elder McNeil's for the Elders to phone it. In the meantime, I read a part of Paul H. Dunn's book "Ten Most Wanted Men". It's a great book. Someday, I'm going to qualify under each category, with the Lord's help.



Elder Craig Jessop

Craig became the director of the Tabernacle Choir in 1999.



George McNeil was in the Secret Service guarding Presidents a few years ago



David Weight

Sunday January 4, 1970

Billy Whitewolf took us to Sunday School today. We all really enjoyed it. However, it didn't do Elder Hogan any good. When we got home, his temperature was 104 degrees. He has the flu. He's coughing and shaking like he's real sick. He is. The doctor will come tomorrow and check him out. It seems like the whole town has got the flu. It's spread all over England.

Monday January 5, 1970

Dr. MacAdam told Elder Hogan this morning that he'd be sick for a week. It's the flu all right. Elder Sorenson, the zone leader, left his companion, Elder Clayton, her & he & I met with the district. First, we visited Kirkstall Abbey. It's in ruins, but it's still interesting. It dates to 1100 A.D. Then we crossed the road to the Kirkstall ...

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....museum. On the ground floor they have Abbey artifacts and explanations of the abbey life itself. Then upstairs it had rooms showing the kinds of clothes they wore 150 & 160 yrs. ago. And also toys, in two gigantic rooms, that date from about 1800 to 1920. That was all fascinating. They also had a room with different penny arcade machines. They still worked, too. I used up all my pennies in there. The best part was the "streets" they had. It was a full size replica of English shops, advertisements, merchandise, and even cobblestone streets. Much of the merchandise was genuine. There were a couple of dozen different kinds of shops; there was even a "pub" of the era (including the prices of the spirits). I wish I could see it again. It captured the atmosphere of about 1840 or 1850. After this, we all went bowling and enjoyed ourselves that way.

January 6, 1970

Today I went with Jessop, Richards, & Weight to an old folks home while McNeil stayed with Hogan. The Elders, and a few members put on an hour and a half musical performance. These Elders are really good. In fact, Jessop has toured a lot of Asia...

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....with the U.S. O. He sings tenor & plays the guitar. Weight plays the piano extremely well, and Richards has a very good bass voice. Then tonight, Jessop & I went to see two of our real good contacts. I expect both of them to be eventually baptized. We also Ann, Bill's landlady, and gave her a church history book for Bill to read. She's real nice. Someday I believe she'll join the church, too.

Wednesday January 7, 1970

Elder Hogan is still feeling bad from the flu, but we ventured out to the bath house and to the bank. It was too much for him though. He's going to be sick a day or two more. By the way, the snow is still on the ground and it's been a beautiful day.

Thursday January 8, 1970

We stayed in again today. His temperature rose a bit. He's still got a sore throat and coughs a lot. I hope he feels better tomorrow.

Friday January 9, 1970

Elder Hogan is still sick.

Saturday January 10, 1970

We were able to take a bath and see Miss J.J. Banks, a contact of ours. She says she'll come to church tomorrow.

Sunday January 11, 1970

This morning we went over to Miss Banks to pick her up for church (we told her we would). She stood us up. So, we missed our bus to Sunday School. – They run once an hour Sunday morning. We missed Sunday School entirely. Tonight at Sacrament meeting, I gave a 20 minute talk on "Example". After the meeting was over, we went to a fireside at Sister Gatehouse's. Everyone listened to the tape "Profile of a Prophet" by Hugh B. Brown. Then refreshments were served and we all "socialized" a bit. We missed our last bus to home from there, so we took a taxi home. It's been a very memorable day.

Monday January 12, 1970

Today was our district preparation day. In the afternoon we went bowling. My high was 185. It was a lot of fun. Then tonight the district went to see the wrestling matches at the Town Hall. It was a barrel of laughs. Billy Whitewolf's match was the main event. It only lasted 3 rounds, then the guy blew his temper and started playing dirty, which made Billy very angry, so he promptly took care of the guy for a few moments. After that....

..., the guy just refused to wrestle. So Billy challenged him to an Indian Death match. That means wrestling at the end of a rope that each has his hands tied to until there is only one guy left. Sounds like fun. Anyway, Billy paid for our admission, we got seats about 3 rows from the front.



Billy Whitewolf in Costume

Tuesday January 13, 1970

This morning we went up town & I bought a few gifts. Then this afternoon I prepared a package to send home. Tonight we taught a 2 hr. 1st discussion to Mrs. Walker. She doesn't believe there is a God. Well, I know there is. She's a real nice person, but very "intellectual", not much feeling inside her at all.

Wednesday January 14, 1970

Elder McNeil & Elder Shriley came over to work with us today. Shriley & Hogan called on people this morning, which McNeil & I did some last minute shopping. I've bought just about everything I want to get in the past few days. This afternoon Shriley & I called back on people we've loaned or sold BOMs to. At one place, we found the J.W.'s teaching a guy, so we stopped about a half hour and discussed prophets & restoration with them. Then we went to see Miss Banks for about 25 minutes. Her friends are opposing her, but she said she'd have the 6 discussions in spite of them. Tonight we taught Maureen Mainey & her friend, Ann, a 1st discussion. They are interested, but their stumbling ...

...block is that they have stopped believing in God. Maureen has read 1st Nephi and she says she'll read the rest of it to find out. From her sincerity I'd say she will read it. I know that that Book is true.

Note: In my journal, I incorrectly wrote Elder Shriley's name as Shirley.

Books Read (and date completed) for the 4th 6 months of my mission:

September 12, 1969 – Book of Mormon

January 7, 1970 – The Old Testament

January 9, 1980 – Doctrine and Covenants

January 14, 1970- Pearl of Great Price

Thursday January 15, 1970

This morning I mailed my tape recorder and took a bus into town. The train arrived in Harrogate about 12:00. I had a Chinese meal then took a bus to Rossett Green. Well, this is it; my last day in England. IT doesn't seem like 2 years are over. Never have two years gone by so quickly for me. Tonight, President Robison & Sister Robison gave us a Family Night. Those two are like a mother and father to me. She ...

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...respects his priesthood and is always backing him up. Most of all, though, there's the unspoken love and warmth that is communicated from them from one side of the room to the other. They're wonderful examples of parenthood (and grandparenthood), marriages and they set ideals in their actions that are worth emulating. President Robison's message tonight was that when we went home and began to view things that we knew up to 2 yrs. ago that we'd discover that our values had changed. He cited as an example the 1st house he had lived in and how it contained his and Sister Robison's material possessions entirely. He's made a lot of financial progression since then and how he just doesn't see how they could have done it. He said the house was smaller than the room we were meeting in. This room was only a small part of a huge 2 story Mission Home. He told us to prepare ourselves for many changes this way.



This is the group of missionaries I went home with (and also came out with) I was companions with Squire and Wilson and worked with Hymus, Lester & McKay on several occasions.

Photo: Left to right: Elder Hymas, Paul Squire, Elder Lester, Elder McKay, ?, Elder Swihart, Elder James.

Friday January 16, 1970

We had a great big breakfast at the mission home, then President Robison took us to Leeds Bradford Airport. The 8:00 plane was grounded because of ground fog in London but we took off at 10:00. Everything seemed to go by so fast. It's almost unbelievable that I'm home. It seems only like yesterday since this experience was beginning; now, it's a matter of history. Trent and Wayne were asleep. Mary & Mother & Dad don't seem to have changed a great deal. Things are about the same as they were when I left. Many improvements have been made around the house, though. I'm pretty nervous about being home again, but this will adjust themselves pretty soon.



Norma is the one that prepared our breakfast - From the July 1969 Millennial Star



President Robison

Note: On the plan back, the movie shown was "Butch Cassidy and The Sundance Kid". When my plane arrived at the Sacramento airport, it was raining cats and dogs. My dad was upset that he'd had to drive from Vacaville to Sacramento in a torrential rain to pick me up. He thought I should have gotten off the plane at San Francisco and taken a bus to Fairfield. I tried to explain that I had to make flight arrangements while still in England, and that I was very uncomfortable getting off the plane at San Francisco.

Saturday January 17, 1970

The draft board notified me to report for a physical next month, today. They sure do work quick. About all I did was rest and play with Trent and Wayne.

Note: My mother did ask me to drive over to the post office for her to check the mail. I took their white car, which was parked in front of 102 Birch street. I tried to drive correctly, but the habit of driving on the left side of the road for two years kicked in. As I turned the corner, from Birch street to Cypress street, I suddenly found myself heading directly into another car - a head-on collision for sure. The only this I could do was swerve quickly to the left and into a neighbors front yard.

Later in the day, my Father took me in the back yard, and explained that he could no longer provide me any financial support, for school or anything else. He was clear that I was now "on my own".



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Sunday January 18, 1970

It made me feel very grateful for the reception everyone gave me at church today. They seem to remember me. Most of them, however, are new faces. The ward here has really changed. I bore my testimony tonight at Sacrament Meeting. It was a good Sacrament Service.

Monday January 19, 1970

Time has been slipping by like I'm in a daze. Today, I reported to the draft board. If I don't go to school, then by summer Uncle Sam will send me a letter saying hello. The bank, Wells Fargo, sent off my application for a loan today.

Note: While I had been accepted to BYU, I didn't have any funds to pay for tuition. The only solution was to borrow \$1,500 so that I could have the necessary funds for my first semester at BYU.

Tuesday January 20, 1970

Most of today I lounged around and rested, and played with Trent and Wayne. Tonight, at M.I.A., the explorers asked me all sorts of questions in their class about England; it was interesting trying to answer them.

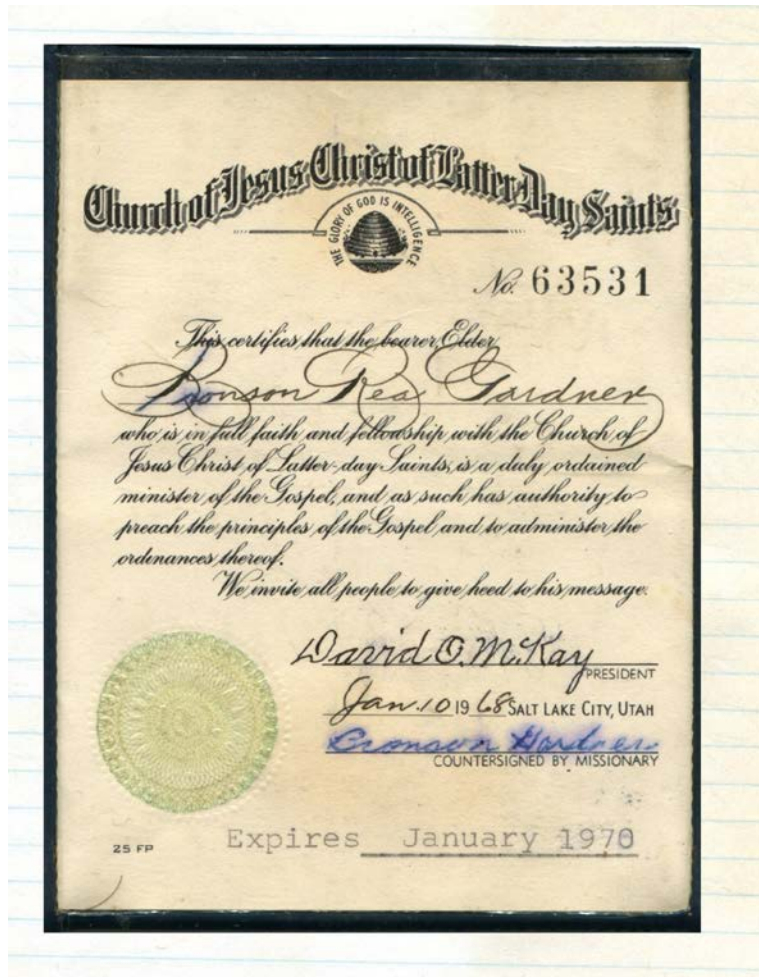
Page 325

This day just doesn't seem real. About 2:00 this afternoon President Call gave me my official release. I don't feel any different. Being released from full time missionary service isn't like being released from an obligation to live the gospel. Tonight Bob Green drove me down to Napa and I bore my testimony of the gospel to the high priests and Stake Presidency. Then, they asked me a lot of questions. They asked questions about half an hour. Officially, now, my mission is over. It took two years to build myself into a good missionary, now I'll begin building a life centered around those things. I've built upon the last two years. I just hope my pride doesn't get in my way. There is a lot to be gained from this life is one is willing to put a lot into it.

With these comments, I declare this:

THE END

Note: Most of the photos from this point on were stored in my journal for over 45 years. But, the tape totally dried out and the photos started falling out of the book. While a few photos still remain in the original location, most shown here are now stored in a separate binder.



THE NORTH BRITISH MISSION



The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

ROSSETT GREEN, ROSSETT GREEN LANE, HARROGATE, YORKSHIRE, ENGLAND TELEGRAM QUICKMERE HARROGATE, PHONE HARROGATE 82456&82457

January 12, 1970

Brother and Sister Jack Gardner
P. O. Box 404
Vacaville, California 95688
United States of America

Dear Brother Sister Gardner,

We have greatly enjoyed laboring with your son, Elder Bronson Rea Gardner, during his period of missionary service in this great Mission. It is gratifying to know that he has honorably fulfilled his calling received from the First Presidency. He will be released from his proselyting efforts on January 16, 1970, and will be returning to his home and family.

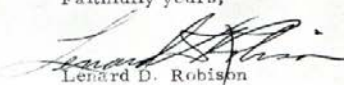
Your son has enjoyed many faith-promoting experiences. His testimony of the restored Gospel has greatly increased. As a result of his labors, and the efforts of others with whom he has been closely associated, he has seen the Gospel change the lives of many people who have accepted its principles. We appreciate the letters of encouragement you have sent him during his mission and for your faith and prayers on behalf of all of us similarly engaged in this great work.

As your son now returns home to re-establish himself in a normal social environment and in a college atmosphere, he will find that the necessary adjustment is not easy. He will need your continued love and understanding. We hope that you, his family and his friends will assist him as his needs may require.

Under established procedures, we are sending your son's missionary release to his stake president. He should apply to the stake president for an immediate interview and an opportunity to report his mission. If the stake president finds that everything is satisfactory, the release may then be delivered to him.

We pray that our Heavenly Father will continue to bless you and your family in all your righteous needs and reward you for your loyalty and dedication to this great work.


Faithfully yours,


Leonard D. Robison
Mission President

LDR:ljd

FORM 34-PP

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

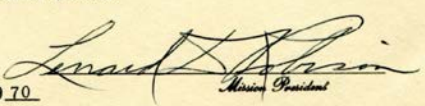


North British Mission

BRONSON REA GARDNER

This certifies that you are honorably released from your appointment as a missionary in this Mission. No greater service can be rendered than to labor faithfully for the salvation of the souls of men. The gratitude of those who have been the beneficiaries of your voluntary, generous labors will ever be a source of satisfaction and inspiration to you.

May the joy that comes from the conscientious performance of the duties of this high calling ever abide with you and inspire you with a constant devotion to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.


Mission President

January 16, 1970

10/12/69
Gentlemen,
I am very sorry,
but due to pressure of work,
I have had to go into the
office an extra day.
I read the marked
Paragraphs, and found them
interesting although I must
admit that the idea of
Jesus having appeared in
early America, the fact
of America having had a
long answer history is a

rather unusual one, particularly
to English people who
think of America as a very
young country with only the
Indians there before.
I thank you for the
loan of the Book &
am again apologise for not
being in.

Chlorisday

A typical
rejection

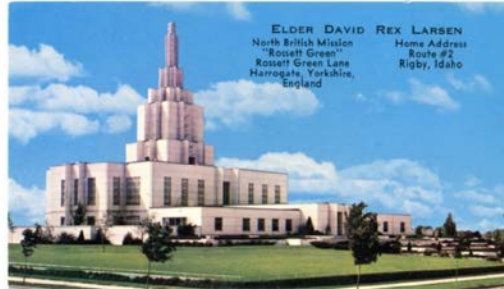
note from
a doorstep

in England.
Dec. 10, 1969

THE ARTICLES OF FAITH of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

1. We believe in God, the Eternal Father, and in His Son, Jesus Christ, and in the Holy Ghost.
2. We believe that men will be punished for their own sins, and not for Adam's transgression.
3. We believe that through the Atonement of Christ, all mankind may be saved by obedience to the laws and ordinances of the Gospel.
4. We believe that the first principles and ordinances of the Gospel are: first, Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ; second, Repentance; third, Baptism by immersion for the remission of sins; fourth, Laying on of hands for the gift of the Holy Ghost.
5. We believe that a man must be called of God, by prophecy, and by the laying on of hands, by those who are in authority to preach the Gospel and administer in the ordinances thereof.
6. We believe in the same organization that existed in the Primitive Church, viz., apostles, prophets, pastors, teachers, evangelists, etc.
7. We believe in the gift of tongues, prophecy, revelation, visions, healing, interpretation of tongues, etc.
8. We believe the Bible to be the word of God as far as it is translated correctly; we also believe the Book of Mormon to be the word of God.
9. We believe all that God has revealed, all that He does now reveal, and we believe that He will yet reveal many great and important things pertaining to the Kingdom of God.
10. We believe in the literal gathering of Israel and in the restoration of the Ten Tribes; that Zion will be built upon this [the American] continent; that Christ will reign personally upon the earth; and, that the earth will be renewed and receive its paradisaical glory.
11. We claim the privilege of worshipping Almighty God according to the dictates of our own conscience, and allow all men the same privilege, let them worship here, there, or what they may.
12. We believe in being subject to kings, presidents, rulers and magistrates, in obeying, honoring, and sustaining the law.
13. We believe in being honest, true, chaste, temperate, virtuous, and in doing good to all men; indeed, we may say that we follow the admonition of Paul—We believe all things, we hope all things, we have endured many things, and hope to be able to endure all things. If there is anything virtuous, lovely, or of good report or praise-worthy, we seek after these things.—Joseph Smith.

L. D. S. TEMPLE
Idaho Falls, Idaho
Magazine Printing Co., Salt Lake City, Utah—Printed, USA



ELDER DAVID REX LARSEN
North British Mission
"Rossett Green"
Rossett Green Lane
Harrogate, Yorkshire,
England
Home Address
Route #2
Rigby, Idaho

EVENING TELEGRAPH, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14, 1936



Alan, Kathryn and Philip Dawe with Ricky and Jock, two of the dogs they are taking for walks.

WALKING THE DOG—ALL THE WAY TO THE USA

THREE CLEETHORPES children, Alan, Philip and Kathryn Dawe, of 104, Oxford-street, plan to make their summer holidays profitable. For they hope to raise enough money to take them to America next year by doing various odd jobs.

These are the children of the first landlady and landlord I had while I was in Cleethorpes, Lincolnshire

The children will be going with their parents to attend a Mormon congress in September next year.

And to get there, Alan (13), Philip (8) and Kathryn (10) are offering a useful service — they'll walk your dog any day of the week for 1s. an hour.

Alan said: "We all like dogs, and often used to take friends' dogs for walks along the beach. When we knew that there was a chance for us to go to America we decided to try and make some money from dog walking."

Give half

They plan to give half their savings to the Guide Dogs for the Blind and keep the rest for America.

Alan attends the Humberstone Foundation School, and the other two St. Peter's Primary School.

Their father, Mr. Derek Dawe, is chairman of the Cleethorpes branch of the Guide Dogs for the Blind.

Cleethorpes girl weds in Utah



MISS KNUDSEN and MR. WIMMER

A CLEETHORPES girl who met a Mormon missionary in the town two years ago, has been married to him at the Salt Lake Temple, Utah, U.S.A.

Miss Karen Knudsen, formerly of 10, Matthew-street, Cleethorpes, met Mr. Warren S. Wimmer, of Layton, Utah, while he was engaged in missionary work and she was a commercial artist for Ross Group.

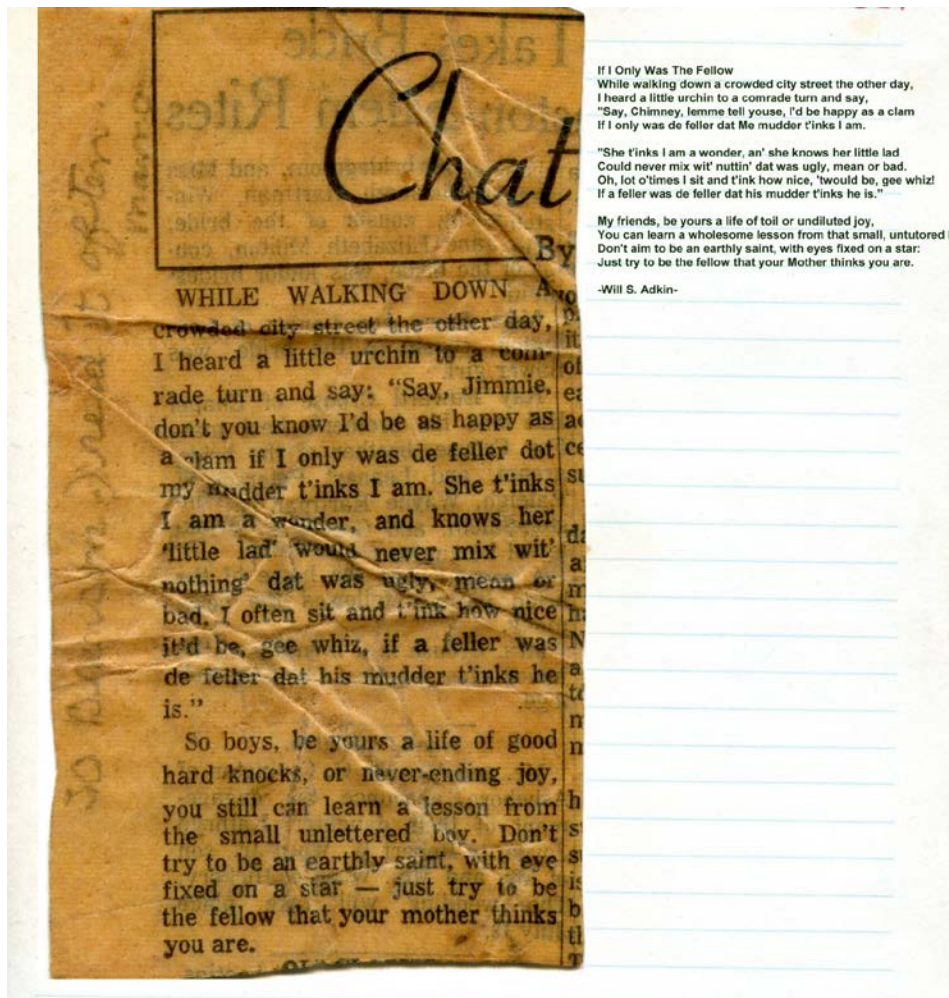
They announced their engagement when Karen visited America in June.

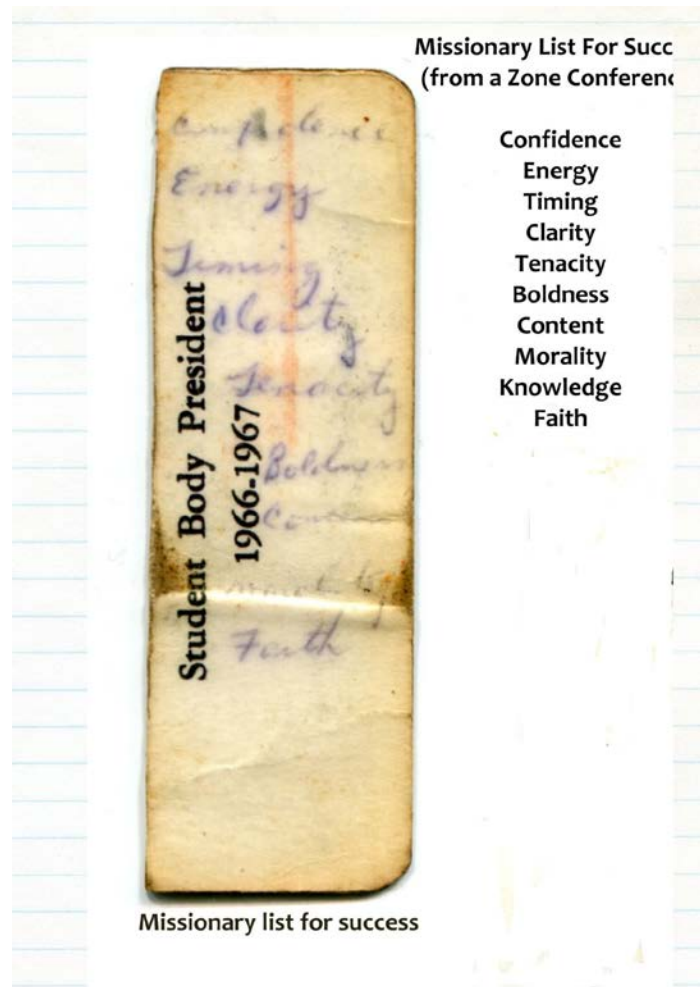
For her wedding she wore a Juliet-style dress of white nylon with an inset of guipure lace and a white shoulder-length veil, secured by a white floral Juliet cap.

She was attended by the bridegroom's sisters, who wore orange silk empire-line dresses.

The bride's mother, Mrs. R. Knudsen, flew out with her for the wedding.

Mr. and Mrs. Wimmer are now living in Ogden, Utah.





I would like to become
the following type of person:

I want to be more confident
in myself; I want to be able to
be calm, dedicated and have
peace of mind; a pleasant
personality; a longer memory; a
I want to have the habit of
setting a goal for myself in
everything I do and be successful
I want to serve God more fully
I want to baptize 3 people
I want my district to baptize
8 people I want my district
to be united, to have love &
harmony, and to enjoy the
spirit of the Lord. I want to be
in tune with the spirit so as to
guide them and lead them in
the ways of spirituality

I want to have a stronger
faith in the Lord, not blind faith
I want to read the Bible
I want to be patient, forgiving,
devoted, I want to be loved and
to love everyone I come in
contact with, I want to
have the courage of my
convictions. I want to
endure to the end in my
faith and in serving God. I
want to continually progress
and improve myself. I want to
stop running myself down. I
want to become a completely
positive thinker. I want to
be a son of God.

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Books Read (and number of times read) for my mission :

Book of Mormon Key to Conversion – 1

The Great Apostasy – 2

Truth Restored – 1

The Kingship of Self-Control -1

Marvelous Work and a Wonder – 1

Book of Mormon -4

The House of the Lord – 1

Doctrine and Covenants -3

Pearl of Great Price – 4

Articles of Faith -1

A New Witness for Christ in America – 1

New Testament -2

Jesus the Christ -1

Pearl of Great Price on Tape -1

The Old Testament -1

PHONE: 659178

Geo. F. H. de Relwyskow
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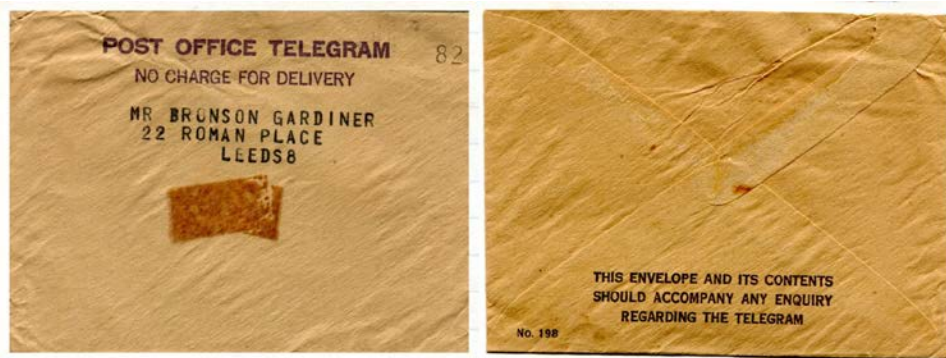
*Finished 4th 6 months
 Born
 Sept 12, 1969*

Steve and Katie Williamson (mother and son). Katie was taught about the church in Carlisle, England after being contacted by Bronson Gardner on his mission. Her husband was abusive and frequently beat her. The week she was to be baptized, he hit her so hard she had to be hospitalized. She was baptized anyway. She was originally from London.

Steven Ramsden - He was Bronson's most memorable convert on his mission. He quit his job at the liquor store after being baptized.



all they told me was that my plane would
get into Sacramento a $\frac{1}{2}$ later!



The image shows a Post Office Telegram form. At the top, it says "POST OFFICE TELEGRAM" with a small crown logo. Below this is the text "Prefix, Time handed in, Office of Origin and Service Instructions, Words." The form is divided into several sections. On the left, there is a section for "Charges to pay" with fields for "s." and "d." and a "RECEIVED" stamp. In the center, there is a section for "At" and "From" with handwritten details: "At" is blank, "From" is "G13 11.5 HARROGATE LS 14", and "By" is "M". On the right, there is a section for "No. OFFICE STAMP" with the number "82" and a circular stamp. Below these sections, there is a large section for the message, which contains the text "MR BRONSON GARDINER 22 ROMAN PLACE LEEDS 8 =" and "PLEASE CALL MISSION HOME IMMEDIATELY = ROBISON +". At the bottom, there is a section for "Phone 'TELEGRAMS ENQUIRY' or call, with this form" and a handwritten "22 8 + YO 0". The form is numbered "12795 789 144" in the bottom left corner.









Location: a village near South Shields.
Bronson tracted this village in July 1969 as a missionary.

a village near South Shields - Tracted July 1969

ROKER & SEABURN

ELDER GARDNER
As You Know MAYNOR
is leaving SAT. MORNING.
WE HAVE Real Good
APPOINTMENTS AT:
9:30 - 11:00 - 12:30
and 2:00.
Need your help.
Don't to keep bothering
you - but - they might
be good people and
beginners. Elder
Gardner

50p
JUL 1969
SUNDERLAND

ELDER GARDNER of "PRAIRIE CHURCH"
28 FOURSTONES RD.
SUNDERLAND, CO. DURHAM

June, 1969

Article of Faith – Missionary Cards Bronson Collected from his companions and others while on his mission.





ELDER CORWIN EMANUEL GERMAINE
 North British Mission
 "Rossett Green"
 Rossett Green Lane
 Harrogate, Yorkshire
 England

Home Address
 8199 Desert Ave.
 Fair Oaks, California
 95628
 U.S.A.



ELDER JAY B. THOMAS
 North British Mission
 "Rossett Green"
 Rossett Green Lane
 Harrogate, Yorkshire
 England

Home Address
 Box 110
 Lewiston, Utah



RALPH STEPHEN BLACKHAM
 North British Mission
 "Rossett Green"
 Rossett Green Lane
 Harrogate, Yorkshire
 England

Home Address
 Moroni, Utah



ELDER RICHARD J. MCCORMACK
 North British Mission
 "Rossett Green"
 Rossett Green Lane
 Harrogate, Yorkshire
 England

Home Address
 815 - 14 St. "A" No.
 Lethbridge, Alberta,
 Canada



Elder H. D. HAYGOOD
 North British Mission
 "Rossett Green"
 Rossett Green Lane
 Harrogate, Yorks.
 England.

Home Address
 738 Myrtle Street,
 Atlanta,
 Georgia 30308.

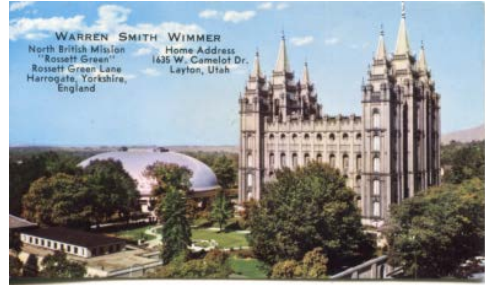


Elder GEORGE R. McNEILL
 North British Mission
 "Rossett Green"
 Rossett Green Lane
 Harrogate, Yorks.
 England.

Home Address
 Box 278
 Bluewater,
 New Mexico,
 U.S.A.



THOMAS L. NELSON
North British Mission
"Rossett Green"
Rossett Green Lane
Harrogate, Yorkshire,
England
Home Address
Box 170
Park City, Utah 84060



WARREN SMITH WIMMER
North British Mission
"Rossett Green"
Rossett Green Lane
Harrogate, Yorkshire,
England
Home Address
1435 W. Camelot Dr.
Layton, Utah



Elder VAL HOGAN
North British Mission
"Rossett Green."
Rossett Green Lane,
Harrogate, Yorks.
England.
Home Address
Box 124,
Grace,
Idaho,
U.S.A.



ELDER VERNON D. McDONALD
North British Mission
"Rossett Green"
Rossett Green Lane
Harrogate, Yorkshire,
England
Home Address
3117 Terry Way
Carmichael, Calif.

Elder Bronson Gardner
North British Mission
Rossett Green Lane
Harrogate, Yorks., England

